

January — March
2018

AGA Charleston Newsletter

President's Message

While I have only been an AGA member for less than two years, I cannot believe how many amazing professional contacts and personal friends I have made through this chapter. I have greatly enjoyed my short term as your president and believe our incoming president will continue our chapter's history of success. I will continue serving our chapter remotely as the Social Media Director from Murrells Inlet as I move on to take care of an aging family member. I look forward to this year's PDT and encourage our members to get involved and submit ideas, speakers, and serve on our leadership team—you will be amazed by the quality of people and opportunities you come across with this chapter. Best wishes to all of you and cheers to another year of success! Kind Regards, Rebecca

Rebecca Helms

Outgoing Chapter President



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I am excited and honored to be given the opportunity to lead the Charleston AGA chapter over the next year. Both I and my employer, Kearney & Company, P.C., are relatively new to the area, however, we have strong history and participation with the National AGA chapter in Washington, DC. Personally I have been a financial statement auditor for twelve years, the majority of that time working in the Federal space for clients within the Department of Defense, Department of Commerce, and National Credit Union Administration.

I joined the local AGA chapter here in Charleston as a way to network locally and obtain those all-important CPE credits. I was very impressed with the Charleston PDT in 2017, and since becoming a member last Fall, many AGA members have reached out and been very welcoming. We all know the speed at which Charleston is growing; I look forward to continuing to extend that welcoming spirit to new members. I am excited to meet with our chapter's leadership team later this month to build upon the goals established, and learn about the possibilities to continue to enhance our chapter. Again, I look forward to meeting many of you over the next year.

Bryan Nelms

Incoming Chapter President





Welcome New Members!



We are pleased to introduce the following new members who have joined AGA Charleston Chapter!

January

John Buchholz
Sheri Cooper

February

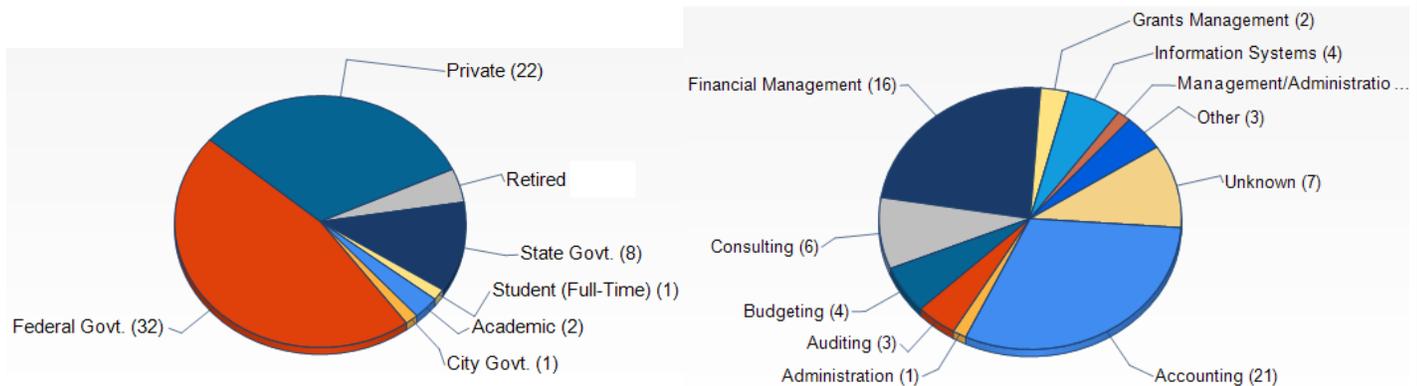
N/A

March

Brett Green

OUR MEMBERS

The AGA Charleston, SC chapter currently has 69 members in various fields of study such as budgeting, auditing, consulting, management, and information systems. Membership ranges from all government levels as well as academic and private organizations. The chapter is proud to say that the membership retention has been steady and continues to expand in other areas of government and academia.



Membership Benefit Opportunities

Upcoming Webinars:

Apr. 11 | 2–3:50 p.m. ET (BETH)
Ethics

Jun. 13 | 2–3:50 p.m. ET (PD)
Leadership

Apr. 25 | 2–3:50 p.m. ET (AUDG)
Data Act

May 09 | 2–3:50 p.m. ET (PD)
Polishing Your Presentation Skills

May 16 | 2–3:50 p.m. ET (AUDG)
Fraud/Data Analytics

Member Spotlight



Thank you Marcus Pollard for letting the AGA Charleston Chapter Members get to you know you!

Q) Where do you work and what is your role?

A) I am employed with Kearney & Co, a CPA firm based in Alexandria, VA, that focuses exclusively on Federal Government. I am an associate in the firm's new Charleston, SC location, on multiple financial statement audits. I am currently responsible for preparing audit documentation on the financial reporting and budget cycles, attending and documenting walkthrough meetings, and reconciling, tracing, and agreeing financial statements.

Q) Are you a CGFM? If so, why is that important to you? If not, do you plan on obtaining the certification and why?

A) I am not a CGFM, but I am currently sitting for the CFGM exams. Working for a firm where the clients are solely Federal Government agencies; studying for and ultimately earning the CGFM certification will permit me to make more educated inferences, leading to more effective recommendations for our clients. The goal is to provide knowledgeable, effective, and efficient services to our clients, in an effort to assist them in providing the American public with accurate and useful information.

Q) How is AGA helpful in your career?

A) The AGA has been beneficial through all of the seminars the organization continues to offer and speakers, all of whom have a wealth of knowledge to share. The Charleston chapter of the AGA, and the most recent Professional Development Training (PDT), was overflowing with networking opportunities, remarkable information sessions, and noteworthy speakers. I truly enjoyed the PDT, and I'm looking forward to attending more events hosted by the Charleston AGA chapter.

Q) What are some of your hobbies and interests?

A) As the husband of a USCG member, I enjoy spending time with my wife, Joy, and daughter, Jillian. Together we all enjoy travelling, spending time at the beach, and learning about the new place we call home, Charleston, SC. Personally, I enjoy reading, cooking, and landscaping around our home.

Q) What advice do you have for other Government Finance employees and contractors?

A) I advise all contractors and Government employees, to read and stay abreast to the Federal Government news as it relates to your current job, and the implications the news could have on your future endeavors. Laws, regulations, and policies are ever changing, and it is up to all of us to do our best to understand and hold each other accountable to those changes.

Professional Development—Upcoming PDT 2018

PDT 2018



2018 Professional Development Training

July 22–25, 2018 | 24 CPEs
Orlando, Fla. or virtual

PDT 2018

2018 Professional Development Training
July 22–25 | Orlando, Fla. or virtual | 24 CPEs
AGA's premier training and networking event

[Registration & Fees](#)

	<i>Online</i>	<i>Email/mail</i>
AGA member		
(by June 29)	\$875	\$900
(after June 29)	\$975	\$1,000
Nonmember		
(by June 29)	\$1,075	\$1,100
(after June 29)	\$1,175	\$1,200

Three reasons you should attend:

1. Earn up to 24 CPEs!
2. Stay cutting-edge by enhancing your knowledge and skills.
3. Network and connect.

SAVE THE DATE!



Orlando World Center Marriott and Convention
Center

Young Professionals PDT Scholarship (Member benefit)

AGA selects up to FIVE young professionals (YP) to attend the AGA PDT. The YPs will act as ambassadors for PDT attendees and assist with exhibits and other event activities. A YP must be under the age of 30, a member in good standing, first time participant, and have availability throughout the event. The scholarship includes five nights in Orlando (event location), complimentary event registration, CPE if applicable, and great opportunities for meeting and networking with AGA Leaders.

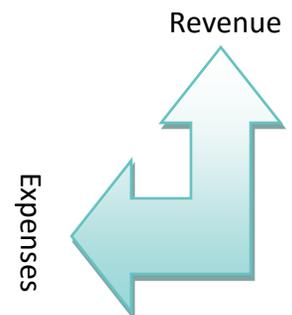
FUTURE PDT LOCATION and DATES:

2019 - New Orleans, LA July 21 - July 24
2020 - Grapevine, TX July 19 - July 22
2021 - Nashville, TN July 18 - July 21

Chapter Financials

AGA Charleston SC Chapter Profit and Loss Statement YTD as of March 31, 2018										
	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Total
Revenue										
Membership Dues	154	-	-	25	-	-	73			252
Corporate Sponsors	-	3,000	-	2,000	-	-				5,000
PDT Registration	-	-	-	-	-	4,847	3,420			8,267
Non Member Events	-	-	-	-	-	-				-
Miscellaneous (t shirt sales)	-	-	-	-	-	-				-
Total Revenue	154	3,000	-	2,025	-	4,847	3,493	-	-	13,519
Expenses										
PDT Expenses	153	-	-	1,372	2,538	4,408				8,470
Community Services	-	-	-	-	-	92				92
Speaker Events	-	-	164	0	320	153			264	901
Post Office Box	-	-	90	-	-	-				90
Supplies	-	-	-	-	-	-		10		10
IT Fees and Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	-				-
Social Media	-	-	35	-	140	-				175
Member Events	-	-	-	119	-	7			34	160
Total Expenses	153	-	289	1,492	2,997	4,659	-	10	298	9,898
Net Income	2	3,000	(289)	533	(2,997)	187	3,493	(10)	(298)	\$ 3,621

Date posted	Amount	Check number	Description	Date posted	Amount	Description
7/3/2017	\$ 152.59	1078	S. Kennedy - Headphones for PDT Raffle Donation	7/28/2016	\$ 154.16	Chapter Dues
9/27/2017	\$ 90.00	1079	R. Helms - PO Box Fee	8/14/2017	\$ 1,000.00	Haynes sponsorship
10/2/2017	\$ 140.08	1081	S. Kennedy - Gift Card for speaker (\$20), Publix - subs/cookies/thank you cards (\$105.50), Publix - chips (\$14.58) for speaker event	8/24/2017	\$ 1,000.00	STG sponsorship
10/10/2017	\$ 23.77	1127	R. Helms - Plates/utensils/soda water for speaker event	8/24/2017	\$ 1,000.00	IFAS sponsorship
10/10/2017	\$ 119.42	1082	S. Kennedy - Plates/drinks and pizza for open house	10/10/2017	\$ 1,000.00	CGI sponsorship
10/17/2017	\$ 34.96	1083	R. Helms - Facebook bump of website in September	10/20/2017	\$ 25.00	Chapter Dues
10/30/2017	\$ 1,372.09	1084	R. Helms - PDT favors	10/30/2017	\$ 1,000.00	MIL sponsorship
11/6/2017	\$ 89.94	1080	R. Helms - Meetup 6-month subscription	12/1/2017	\$ 90.00	PDT registration
11/24/2017	\$ 319.82	1085	R. Helms - Happy Hour Networking Event + \$25 Gift Card	12/19/2017	\$ 4,756.90	PDT registration
12/4/2017	\$ 448.00	1086	R. Helms - \$398 for PDT speaker gifts, \$50 for PDT Facebook Boost	1/22/2018	\$ 73.33	Chapter Dues
1/11/2018	\$ 2,139.56	1087	CSU Aramark Catering - PDT food (M. Jones)	1/22/2018	\$ 3,420.00	PDT registration
12/6/2017	\$ 105.58	1088	S. Kennedy - PDT Badge Inserts (\$13.41), CYDC Christmas Party (\$92.17)	Balance	\$ 13,519.39	
12/12/2017	\$ 182.70	1089	M. Jones - PDT Insurance (\$176), AGA HH Sharpies/Name Tags (\$6.70)			
12/15/2017	\$ 152.84	1090	M. Jones - Lunch with Ann Ebberts			
12/15/2017	\$ 320.00	1091	M. Jones - PDT Speaker Gifts & Raffle (16 \$20 Amazon Gift Cards)			
12/22/2017	\$ 490.76	1092	S. Kennedy - Printing Programs for PDT			
1/17/2018	\$ 1,750.00	1093	Charleston Southern University - PDT facilities			
1/16/2018	\$ 300.00	1094	AGA - Travel Expenses for Ann Ebberts (S. Kennedy)			
1/23/2018	\$ 1,357.61	1095	CSU Aramark Catering - PDT food (M. Jones)			
2/12/2018	\$ 10.00	1096	C. Bridges - Stamps			
3/19/2018	\$ 264.41	1097	M. Jones - Schlotzky's Catering (\$251.91) and DoS - Café - Drinks (\$12.50) for speaker event			
3/21/2018	\$ 33.97	1098	R. Helms - Recruitment lunch			
Balance	\$ 9,898.10					



AGA Charleston Events

In March our chapter hosted Guest Speaker, Michael Popovich, to present on the topic of Continuous Improvement. Mr. Popovich is the Senior Quality Program Manager for the Department of State, Financial Service Center in Charleston and shares over 25 years of government experience with us. He was able to summarize key aspects and the need for continuous improvement within government programs. A highlight of his presentation includes:

- Keys to continuous improvement revolve around identifying the opportunity for improvement
- Analyze the opportunity to see what steps to take
- Implement the action plan to create the improvement
- Verify the plan was effective, show evidence and measurement of improvement
- Close the process



Guest Speaker:
Mike Popovich
U.S. Department of State

The Chapter would also like to thank our AGA Team members who volunteered their time to make the event a success! Our Events Director, Megan Jones, always makes it look like events simply appear out of thin air—thank you Megan. However, we could not do it without other team members who always step in to greet guests, set up food, decorate, manage sign-in’s, and clean-up. Most notably, Shana Gunter and Timmy Van Parys are always there and lending a hand in whatever way necessary. Our chapter appreciates you all very much!



From Left to Right: Megan Jones, Timmy Van Parys, Mike Popovich, Shana Gunter

Event Attendees



From Left to Right:
Joan Cugell, Georgia Middleton, Megan Jones, Jeanine Otto

Continuous improvement is better than delayed perfection.

Mark Twain



CGFM

Interested in earning your Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) certification? Contact the CGFM Director Peg Kendra at KendraPM@state.gov.



Join the many members who have obtained their CGFM. Take advantage of potential study group and classes!

Current AGA Charleston CGFMs	
Name	Employer
Beth Da Re, CGFM	U.S. Dept. of State
Brett Green, CGFM	U.S. Dept. of State
Charles Maloney Jr., CGFM	Self-Employed
Emily Gable, CGFM	U.S. Dept. of State
Eugenia Bell, CGFM, CPA	U.S. Dept. of State
Georgia Middleton, CGFM	U.S. Dept. of State
John Buchholz, CGFM	U.S. Dept. of State
Kathryn Robinson, CGFM	U.S. Dept. of State
Kevin Pickering, CGFM	U.S. Dept. of State
Lisa Willett, CGFM	U.S. Dept. of State
Lynne Baronoff, CGFM-Retired, CPA	Retired
Michele Deneau, CGFM	Reliable Accounting
Olufunke Olusesi, CGFM	U.S. Dept. of State
Paul McVicker, CGFM	U.S. Dept. of State
Peg Kendra, CGFM	The MIL Corporation
Randy Stanley, CGFM, CPA	U.S. Dept. of State
Robert Maki, CGFM	U.S. Dept. of State
Robin Faass, CGFM	CGI Federal, Inc.
Shari Clark, CGFM, CPA	U.S. Dept. of State
Sheena Kennedy, CGFM, CMA	Conway Medical Center
Stacy Johnson, CGFM	U.S. Dept. of State
Vicki Chupas, CGFM	Department of the Navy SPAWAR SSC Atlantic
Ward Logan, CGFM	The Citadel Military College of South Carolina
Wilbur Spearin, CGFM-Retired	Retired

Congratulations to Brett and John for obtaining your CGFM designation. KUDOS!

Interested in hearing what others want to know about obtaining the CGFM Designation? Visit the AGA site for CGFM frequently asked questions @

<https://www.agacgfm.org/CGFM-Certification/Candidates/Candidate-FAQs.aspx>

Additional News

Each month your Charleston AGA Chapter Executive Committee meets to share updates on events, best practices, and plan for future events. If you have any questions or would like to see the meeting minutes, please click here.

<https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/CharlestonSC/Our-Chapter/Meeting-Minutes.aspx>

AGA Charleston will have a few of our Committee Directors attend the Sectional Leadership Meeting in May 2018 at Baltimore, MD. Items such as chapter benefits, leadership ideas, chapter improvements, etc. will be discussed. Members who have questions or ideas to share with the Chapter, the National office, and/or partnering Chapters please let us know. You can contact any of the Chapter Executive Committee members below!

Also, as always please share interest of any of the chapter leadership positions.



The Chapter's Secretary Timmy is a new daddy! Congratulations! Welcome to this fantastic world, Jack.

Chapter Executive Committee

Outgoing President

Rebecca Helms
HelmsRD@state.gov

Incoming President

Bryan Nelms
bryan.nelms@kearneyco.com

Treasurer

Colleen Bridges
BridgesCK@state.gov

Secretary

Timmy Van Parys
VanParysTG@state.gov

Membership Director

Osby Mosley
Osby.Mosley@usace.army.mil

CGFM Director

Peg Kendra, CGFM
KendraPM@state.gov

Community Service Director

Courtney Brown
BrownCE3@state.gov

Education Director

Stacy Johnson, CGFM
JohnsonSL3@state.gov

Events Director

Megan Jones
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Turner, Jamie
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Newsletter Editor

Sarah Mollohan
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Awards Director

Shana Gunter
GunterSG@state.gov

Young Professional Director

Jerica Adkins
AdkinsJB@state.gov

Social Media / Marketing Director

Rebecca Helms
HelmsRD@state.gov

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We are never satisfied with simply meeting the challenge. We strive to exceed our customers' expectations. For more information about our services, please contact Peg Kendra at pkendra@milcorp.com or 843-343-3702.



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Haynes, Inc. is a financial services and management consulting firm, with specializations in accounting transactions, process improvement, information technology, and network support. The firm has offices in Maryland, Virginia, and South Carolina.

For more information about our services, please contact Floyd N. Haynes at fhaynes@haynesinc.com.

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IFAS is an accounting and management consulting firm with experience providing Global Financial Services Support, Budget and Resource Management, A-123, IT Support Services and Business Process Improvement services to our federal clients.

For more information regarding IFAS, LLC, please contact Tabatha Turman at turman@ifas-llc.com or Tim Ceschin at tceschin@ifas-llc.com.



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AGA
CHARLESTON, SC
CHAPTER

**Corporate Sponsorship
Program**

If your organization is interested in sponsoring the AGA Charleston chapter, please visit <https://www.agacgm.org/Chapters/CharlestonSC/Our-Chapter/Corporate-Sponsorship-Program.aspx>.