

# Chapter Intel

*(Member Value - Leadership - Collaboration - Empowerment)*

## President's Ponderings

As we are starting this wonderful season of fall, I always begin to look ahead and what the rest of the year holds. One of the main things I think about is all of the different Holidays that we will be celebrating. First of all, I want to take a moment to wish all of you a Happy National Coffee Day today, September 29th. Without this life giving liquid, I would not be able to function on most days! But in all seriousness, we have several major holidays coming up: Native Americans' Day, Halloween, Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving, Black Friday and Cyber Monday (for those of you who love shopping), Christmas, and New Year's Eve.

We all have different traditions for each of these holi-

days, many of which revolve around food and family. It is hard to think about having a Thanksgiving meal without turkey or mashed potatoes or a pumpkin pie. However, there are people in our community that may not have the means of providing a big meal like many of us are accustomed to seeing at Thanksgiving and Christmas. That is why one of the community organizations, Pierre Area Referral Service (PARS), has been providing holiday meals to these families. They take donations and based on those donations they are able to offer several hundred Thanksgiving and Christmas meals to families who might otherwise not have a big holiday feast.

Our SD Chapter of AGA is once again offering a matching program for the PARS Holiday

Meal Project. Our chapter will match every meal that an AGA member purchases. So by you just giving \$40, you will be giving not just one, but two families a big holiday feast consisting of a 10-12 lb turkey or ham, cranberries, stuffing, gravy, potatoes, sweet potatoes, dinner rolls, green beans, apples, oranges, celery, onions, pumpkin pie, and whipped cream.

To be sure that the match is applied, please give all donations to a member of the Chapter Executive Committee or contact Darcy McGuigan our new Community Service Chair who will be overseeing the match program. Checks can be made out to PARS and we will deliver them. Thank you all for your participation in this great community program!

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### Contact Us

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SouthDakota  
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## Basic Budgeting Class



Over the past year and a half, the South Dakota Chapter of AGA and the Pierre Area Referral

Service have teamed up to offer four different sessions of the Basic Budgeting Class. Each session of the Budgeting Class is three classes long and we are

offering three sessions throughout the year. The classes cover the very basics of budgeting; what are your wants versus your needs, what is the basic set up for a budget, and then some cost savings tips on what you can do so you have more money left over in your budget. Then one whole class is dedicated to sitting one-on-one with the participants to

help them put together a budget of their own. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Darcy McGuigan at

[Darcy.Mcguigan@state.sd.us](mailto:Darcy.Mcguigan@state.sd.us)



Please visit the following link to enjoy your FREE Tool Kits & Guides.

<https://www.aga-cgfm.org/Tools>



# AGA PDC 2018

## SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars for the next annual Professional Development Conference to be held at the Ramkota Hotel in Pierre!

**April 10<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

To receive updates, including registration information, email [SouthDakotaAGA@gmail.com](mailto:SouthDakotaAGA@gmail.com)



### What are the initial requirements?

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

## What is CGFM?

Certified Government Financial Manager® (CGFM®) is a professional certification awarded by AGA, demonstrating competency in governmental accounting, auditing, financial reporting, internal controls and budgeting at the federal, state and local levels.

Have you heard of the CGFM certification? Are you interested in enhancing and showcasing your knowledge in government finance? The Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) is a professional certification awarded by AGA.

### What do I have to do?

Read and agree to abide by the AGA's Code of Ethics.

Hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.

Pass three comprehensive CGFM exams.

Have at least two years of professional level experience in government finance management.

### What are the benefits?

Increase and showcase your knowledge.

Distinguish yourself.

Enhance your marketability through all levels of government.

### How can our South Dakota AGA chapter help?

Reimbursement for 50% of the examination fees (up to \$187.50).

CGFM study materials are available for members to use.

Connect with other individuals who are currently pursuing their CGFM certification.

Connect with individuals who already hold the CGFM certification.

If you have questions regarding CGFM certification, please don't hesitate to contact Heather Nachtigal, the South Dakota Certification Chair, or visit <https://www.agacgfm.org>.

**PDT 2018**



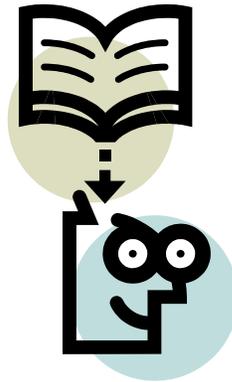
**2018 Professional Development Training**

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

# 2017 Scholarship Recipients!

Congratulations to our 2017 scholarship recipients! We wish all the best to Mr. Darin Reis well as he completes a Business Administration program this fall and to Ms. Michelle DeNeui as she continues her Professional Accountancy program! We are proud to see our members continuing their education as they advance government accountability in their positions and, hopefully, continue to advance their careers as well!

The Chapter looks forward to awarding more scholarships this spring! The application is available on our chapter website at [www.agacgfm.org/southdakota](http://www.agacgfm.org/southdakota). All chapter members are eligible to apply for this scholarship to help offset the costs of academic studies in accounting, budgeting, economics, finance, information resources management and public administration. Applications are due March 2<sup>nd</sup> for our next two academic scholarships - mark your calendars!



## Webinars

It is my pleasure to share with you the AGA webinars that will be available at no cost to you thanks to the sponsorship of the Bureau of Finance and Management. Please feel free to share this with anyone that may be interested. Additional information regarding each conference will be provided prior to each event. If you have any questions, please contact me at

[Matthew.Fickbohm@state.sd.us](mailto:Matthew.Fickbohm@state.sd.us).

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Tentative Location</u>
10/11/2017	<a href="#">Auditing Relevance and Reliability of Performance Information</a>	Matthews Training Center
11/15/2017	<a href="#">Ethics Relating to Fraud</a>	BHR Large Training Room Becker-Hanson Building
12/06/2017	<a href="#">Best Practices for Auditing &amp; Quality Assurance</a>	BHR Large Training Room Becker-Hanson Building
01/10/2018	<a href="#">Grants Management</a>	Matthews Training Center
02/07/2018	<a href="#">GASB Update</a>	Matthews Training Center
04/11/2018	<a href="#">Ethics</a>	Matthews Training Center

# Meet our New President

Hello AGA members, my name is Seth Hipple. I am the current President for the South Dakota AGA Chapter and would like to do just a short introduction. I graduated from Black Hills State University with a Bachelor's in Business Administration Emphasis in Accounting and Management in December of 2011. Following my graduation in February of 2012, I was hired by the State of South Dakota as an Accounting Analyst for the Bureau of Finance and Management.

It was through my work at BFM that I learned about AGA and became a member. I participated in the webinars and the different Community Service opportunities offered by the Chapter. I wanted to know more about the organization and the other things they did besides the webinars. So when I heard that there were some openings on the Chapter Executive Committee, I thought that would be the perfect way to get more immersed in AGA. In April of 2013, I joined the Executive Committee as the Community Service Chair. I chose this because as long as I can remember, giving back to my community has been a very big part of my life and I thought that it would be great to be that voice in a professional organization. As I am sure many of you know, there are a several ways that AGA likes to give back to our community such as the



BackPack Program, the holiday meal boxes, and a fundraiser at the PDC. One of the main ways that our Chapter gives back to our community, the Basic Budgeting Class, started when I was serving as the Community Service Chair. This came about when the Executive Director of PARS, Laura White, approached me and asked me to think about AGA helping with a budget class for some of their clients. Several members of the Chapter Executive Committee met and put together a 3 class session to teach basic budgeting. And so

far we have taught around 10 Basic Budgeting Sessions.

In January of 2017, while President-elect, I left BFM and started working as the Finance Officer for Rural Health Care, Inc. Even though I was leaving governmental accounting, I wanted to continue to be a part of AGA. I wanted to use the skills I learned both at BFM and through being on the Executive Committee to help lead our chapter to be leaders in every way. That is one of the main reasons that we offer sessions other than Governmental Accounting at the PDC, we want to help all of our members grow in more ways professionally than just looking at the numbers. We want our members to have all of the tools they need to be leaders in all aspects of their lives.

I am so glad that all of you are members of AGA, and if you would like any additional information about the Basic Budgeting Class or anything relating to AGA, please let me know at [Seth.Hipple@ruralhc.net](mailto:Seth.Hipple@ruralhc.net). I look forward to serving you as the South Dakota AGA Chapter President.



## 2017-2018 Program Year

- |                                   |                    |                             |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| • <b>Chapter President</b>        | Seth Hipple        | Rural Health Care, Inc.     |
| • <b>Chapter President-Elect</b>  | Matthew Fickbohm   | Dept. of Legislative Audit  |
| • <b>Immediate Past President</b> | Mary Ellen Garrett | SD Board of Regents         |
| • <b>Secretary</b>                | Sarah Burt         | Dept. of Legislative Audit  |
| • <b>Treasurer</b>                | Amanda Werre, CGFM | SD Bureau of Finance & Mgmt |