



## President's Message

Once again, summer is coming to an end and fall is around the corner. So begins a new year at the Maine Chapter of the AGA. As President, I want to welcome you all back and thank you for your continued support and participation with the AGA.

The AGA offers a great opportunity to network, participate in sponsored trainings, and provides our members with new and interesting guest speakers through our monthly meetings. The Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) encourages you to share the opportunities gained through participation in the AGA with your colleagues unfamiliar with the AGA.

As summer does wind to a close, school is about to begin, and so does our annual community service event: Collection of School Supplies for the Family Violence Project. You've probably noticed collection boxes around your office. We encourage you to help and participate in this wonderful, and much appreciated, community service event. We will also be collecting school supplies at our first monthly meeting scheduled for **Monday**, September 8th and throughout the month of September.

Also, in the coming weeks, members of the CEC will be sending notices of upcoming trainings and/or community service opportunities.

If you have any ideas for upcoming trainings, community service events, and/or monthly meeting topics, please feel free to reach out to any member of the CEC. The list of members can be found in this month's AGA newsletter. I want to thank all the members of the CEC for their participation and I would like to remind all AGA members of the current vacancies within the Chapter Executive Committee for the upcoming year.

Respectfully,

Phillip A. Platt, CGFM



VOLUME 2014-2015

ISSUE 1, AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2014

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## ATTENTION!

*We are looking for ideas for speakers. Have a topic or an individual in mind? Contact any member of the CEC with your ideas!*

*Are you using social media? The Maine Chapter AGA invites to you like us on*

Facebook



Chapter Website: <http://home.gwi.net/>



## Highlights of our Accomplishments in 2013-2014

- Successful Web Conferences
- This past year provided some interesting and thoughtful key-note speakers
- Several successful Community Service projects providing assistance and support to both local and state entities
- Eight monthly member meetings were held, each with an informative and/or entertaining topic

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### TRIVIA

Where and when was the first Labor Day parade held in the U.S.?

## AGA Maine Chapter

Our Chapter is looking forward to the new program year with trainings, interesting speakers and community service. We are also preparing an upgrade to our website. Please stay tuned.

## New England Region AGA

The Aroostook Chapter holds CEC meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month. General meetings are held as necessary.

The Hartford Chapter meetings are generally held at 6:00pm on the third Wednesday of each month from September to may.

The Boston Chapter holds monthly meetings and trainings September through June.

## AGA National

AGA National has released its 2013-2014 Member Centric Report as well as their 2013-2014 Audited Financial Statements. If you have a moment, why not give them a view.



<http://www.agacgm.org/about/overview.aspx>



## Member Bio

DEREK GORNEAU

DHHS Service Center, Staff Accountant



Hello fellow members of the AGA. This member bio should be fairly short as I am fairly new to both my career in state government as well as my participation in the AGA, but it is my pleasure to share with you all a little bit about myself.

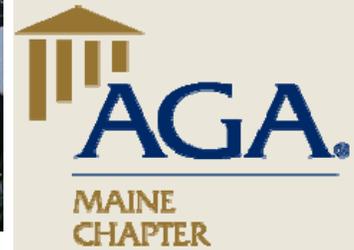
I was born and raised in Winslow, Maine. I graduated from Winslow High School in 2002 and went on to study at the University of Maine, where I majored in Molecular and Cellular Biology. I had originally planned on attending medical school, but about three quarters of the way through my degree, I realized that what I was truly passionate about was working with numbers. I switched majors and transferred to Thomas College where I went on to earn my Bachelor's Degree in Accounting and Finance. I'm currently working on my Master's Degree and should have that completed by next June. I have also just started studying for the CGFM exam.

In regards to work experience, before coming to the state I worked for ten years in the restaurant industry. For that decade, I did everything from cooking, to serving, to essentially managing my own restaurant. It was a very educational experience for a multitude of reasons, but I can't honestly say that I miss it too much. ☺ I started working in state government last September as an Accounting Technician in the DHHS Service Center. After a few months, I was promoted to a Staff Accountant position for the Cost Allocation Team, which is the position that I currently hold. I have enjoyed my experience and educational opportunities since I started working for the state and have met a lot of great people in the very short span of a year. It is a big reason that I joined the AGA and was more than willing to become an officer/director of Programs and Technical Meetings.

In my free time I enjoy exercising, golfing, reading, and watching just about any sport that may be on T.V. My favorite sport is, and always has been, soccer. Recently I broke my leg and ankle playing in an indoor soccer league, so it may just about be time for me to retire. Well that's a little bit about me and please feel free to stop me and say hi and tell me a little about you in the future!



I look forward to working with and meeting all of you in the upcoming year.



### *NEW MEMBERS*

*We would like to welcome a few new members to our Chapter:*

*Larry Carbonneau  
from DHHS,*

*Michelle Lamoreau  
From DOT,*

*Mallory Pollard  
From Board of Corrections,*

*&*

*Sabrina Poon  
From the  
Office of the State Auditor*

*WELCOME!*

## RECRUIT A MEMBER

As a valued member, you can impact the future of AGA by sharing your experience with your peers, your staff and others in your organization with an interest in government financial management. No one knows better how beneficial AGA membership is to advancing government accountability than current AGA members.

Did you know that a large percentage of new members join AGA simply because someone invited them? Consider sharing your AGA membership experience and get rewarded for doing so. Recruit a member today!

### Super Recruiters Club

Once you have recruited 10 members, you become part of the Super Recruiters Club! Super Recruiter status affords many exclusive rewards including recognition at a private reception at the annual PDT. Other rewards include: a lapel pin, certificate, VIP status at all national events and logo wear apparel.



End of Year Sponsor Achievement Awards and Recognition Awards are presented at the annual national training event, the PDT, each summer.

Recruiter of the Year (one winner)—The member who recruits the most new members from May 1 through April 30 will be presented with the Recruiter of the Year distinction and receive a complimentary AGA national meeting registration.

Top Sponsor (two winners)—The next two members who recruit the highest number of new members from May 1 through April 30 will each be bestowed with the Top Sponsor distinction and each will receive a complimentary AGA national meeting registration.

Chapter Overall Growth (six winning chapters)—Those six chapters achieving the highest overall growth percentage in their chapter size grouping for the membership year will each win a complimentary AGA national meeting registration. Chapters decide who receives the registration. Each chapter president and membership chair will be presented with an achievement plaque as well.

Start Recruiting Today!

[Download a membership application](#). You can also order applications by calling AGA at 800.AGA.7211 and/or emailing [agamembers@agacgfm.org](mailto:agamembers@agacgfm.org).

Tell your peers and co-workers about AGA. Simply encourage them to fill out AGA's membership application or apply online. Be sure to include your name in the sponsor's name category on the application to receive credit.



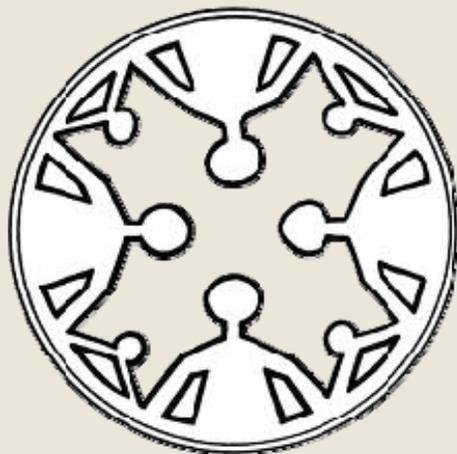
## Community Service Opportunity

The Maine Chapter will be collecting back to school supplies for the Family Violence Project.

Please donate to one of many boxes that have been placed or bring your donations to the September chapter meeting.

“The most precious thing I have to give is my time.”

~Silvia Hartmann



## Support the Family Violence Project



The Family Violence Project needs back to school items for children who come to the shelter. Items like back-packs, lunch boxes, calculators, pens, pencils, crayons, glue sticks, binders and notebooks are needed. Often, the students coming to the shelter are unable to return to their former homes to retrieve school supplies, so these items help make their transition possible.



The Maine Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants is sponsoring this Community Service event and we invite anyone reading this to help out. Donations being accepted through September 30th!



**Thank you for your support!**

Contact Kathy Godfrey @ [kathleen.godfrey@maine.gov](mailto:kathleen.godfrey@maine.gov) if you have any questions

So far we have collected and delivered over two boxes of supplies for our Community Service project. Let's keep em' coming!

Below is just what was received from SESC. Great job folks!

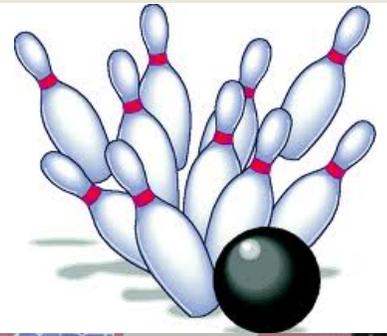


# Community Service

## 2014 Bowl For Kids Sake

Thank you to all of you who came out to support the Big Brothers/Big Sisters with this year's Bowl For Kids Sake held at the Augusta Sparetime Rec .

Check out some highlights!



# BOWL FOR KIDS' SAKE

## UPCOMING TRAINING



Challenge your thinking on internal accountability and controls, and learn how to lower the risks of wrongdoing in your organization. This training event will bring together leaders in government, academia and private industry to discuss the latest discovery techniques and lessons learned from various schemes. The event offers 14 hours of CPE to help you solve real internal control issues and eliminate fraud, waste and abuse.

### Topics Include:

#### Detecting and Preventing Fraud

Fraud is an old problem, but technology is providing would-be perpetrators with new techniques for targeting government programs. Learn about the latest techniques for preventing and detecting fraud.

#### Data Analytics

Government agencies have more data than ever before, but converting it into useful information is a challenge. Learn how to leverage data analytics to identify potential fraud and target investigative resources more efficiently.

#### Internal Control

How can your department or agency improve its control environment? Sessions will address internal controls from the perspectives of program management, risk reduction and elimination of waste and abuse.

#### IPERA

Hear the latest on efforts to root out improper payments from experts in several federal agencies.

#### Payment Cards

Government charge and prepaid cards offer benefits including convenience and cost savings, but they also come up with risks. Learn how different agencies protect against misuse of payment cards.

Date: Sept. 15–16, 2014

Location: Ronald Reagan and International Trade Center , Washington, DC

CPE: 14 CPE Hours

Click [Register](#) to for further details.

(<http://www.agacgfm.org/Fraud2014/Registration.aspx>)



## Celebrating 20 Years of Excellence



CGFM is a professional certification recognizing the unique skills and special knowledge required of today's government financial managers. It covers governmental accounting, auditing, financial reporting, internal controls and budgeting at the federal, state and local levels.

### How Do I Obtain My CGFM?

#### Initial Certification Requirements

To earn the CGFM, candidates 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 and have completed at least 24 credit hours in financial management or related topics.
- ◆ **Examinations**— pass three comprehensive CGFM Examinations.
- ◆ **Experience**— have at least two years of professional-level experience in government financial management.

[Learn more about the process of earning the CGFM designation.](#)

**CGFM Application**—If you are ready to start the process of earning your CGFM, [click here](#) to apply for the CGFM Program.

Anyone interested in a study group?

Please contact Cheryl Libby at [cheryl.libby@maine.gov](mailto:cheryl.libby@maine.gov).



#### AGA CGFM Study Guides— ONLINE!

New from AGA! You can access the CGFM Study Guides on the go!

Read, search and review the study guide content on your laptop, tablet or phone — a convenient way to prepare for the CGFM Examinations. Upon purchasing the online version of each guide, you'll have immediate access to the entire publication for a period of 12 months. In

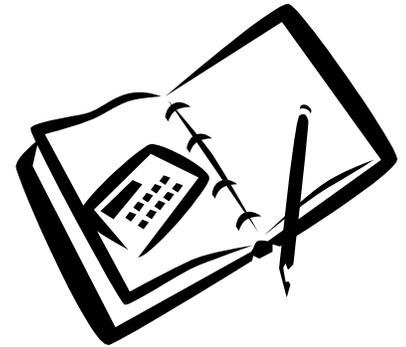


addition, if a newer version of this study guide is published within this period, you'll also have access to the new version! As with the printed version, the online study guides feature textbook-like format with learning objectives, a chapter summary and a reinforcement quiz for each chapter. In addition to the relevant resources, the appendices contain a glossary of terms, a list of reference materials, answers to reinforcement quizzes with explanations and end-of-course review questions. Those ordering the study guides can purchase the option of earning Continuing Professional Education (CPE) hours upon passing an online CPE examination.



## TREASURER'S REPORT

<b>Maine Chapter AGA Balance Sheet as of 08/31/2014</b>		
<b>ASSETS</b>		
	AGA Cash	\$40.00
Cash and Bank Accounts	AGA Checking	\$402.48
	AGA Savings-Share Account	\$5,958.83
Total Cash and Bank Accounts		\$6,401.31
Other Assets	Customer Invoices	\$206.00
Total Other Assets		\$206.00
Total Assets		\$6,607.31
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Other Liabilities	Sales Tax & Business Bills	\$0.00
Total Other Liabilities		\$0.00
Total Liabilities		<u>\$0.00</u>
Overall Total		<b><u>\$6,607.31</u></b>



## CHAPTER RECOGNITION PROGRAM

The Chapter Recognition Program is designed to support, encourage, and promote the accomplishment of AGA's mission and to provide flexible non-competitive guidelines for a well-rounded chapter. The Chapter Recognition Program year begins on June 1st and concludes May 31st.

SECTION	MAX POINTS	TOTAL POINTS	% OF POINTS
Chapter Leadership, Planning & Participation	3000	2250	75%
Education & Professional Development	4000	200	5%
Certification	4000	300	8%
Communications	3000	1194	40%
Membership	4000	500	13%
Accountability	2000	800	40%
Community Service	2000	200	10%
Awards	1000	0	0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	23000	5444	54%
<b>GOAL TOTAL</b>	10000	8541	85.41%
<b>CURRENT GOAL STANDING</b>	10000	5444	54%

## OUR CEC

Please let us know how you like this newsletter and if there are changes or additional information you would like to see by contacting any member of the Executive Committee. For more information on our services, visit our website at <http://home.gwi.net/>

### CHAPTER OFFICERS

#### President

Phillip A. Platt, CGFM  
phillip.platt@maine.gov

#### President-Elect

Bill Fox  
bill.fox@maine.gov

#### Acting-Secretary

Leanne Laverdiere  
leanne.laverdiere@maine.gov

#### Treasurer

Kimberly Hall  
kimberly.hall@maine.gov

### CHAPTER DIRECTORS

#### Bylaws & Procedures

April Newman, CPA  
april.d.newman@maine.gov

#### Communications

Angela Dickinson  
angela.l.dickinson@maine.gov

#### Community Service

Kathy Godfrey  
kathleen.godfrey@maine.gov

#### Early Careers

**Open (If interested, please contact Phillip Platt)**

#### Education

Katharine Wiltuck  
katharine.wiltuck@maine.gov

#### Membership

**Open (if interested, please contact Phillip Platt)**

#### Professional Certification

Cheryl Libby  
cheryl.libby@maine.gov

#### Programs & Technical Meetings

Derek Gorneau  
derek.gorneau@maine.gov

## July 29, 2014

Meeting was held at Cross Office Building.

**Attendees:** Phillip Platt, Derek Gorneau, Angela Dickinson, Kim Hall, Bill Fox, Sabrina Poon, Cheryl Libby and Leanne Laverdiere

- ◇ Discussed plans for the upcoming year
- ◇ Kim Hall has contacted the Senator Inn to book space for monthly meetings
- ◇ The September meeting has been moved to Monday the 8th to accommodate the speaker, Ryan Neale
- ◇ The November meeting has been moved to November 4th as the second Tuesday is a holiday.
- ◇ Discussed the menu options and will get feedback via email from the CEC
- ◇ Discussed options for monthly speakers going forward
- ◇ Discussed options for community service projects
- ◇ Discussed board vacancies (Membership, Awards & Secretary)
- ◇ Angela asked Derek to submit member bio for newsletter



## SEPTEMBER MONTHLY MEETING

The Maine Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants' monthly meeting will be held on **Monday, September 8th** at the Senator Inn.



Our speaker will be **Ryan Neale** from the Maine Development Foundation who will be discussing the Maine Economic Growth Council's "Measures of Growth in Focus" report.

On the menu for our luncheon will be:



- House Salad*
- Country Chicken Pie*
- Warm Blueberry Crisp*

**TRIVIA ANSWER:**  
 "The first Labor Day parade was held in New York City on September 5, 1882."

### Websites of Interest

- American Society for Public Admin (ASPA) .....www.aspanet.org
- MA Chapter of ASPA.....www.massspa.org
- Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (CFE)..... www.cfenet.com
- Greater Boston Chapter of CFE.....www.acfe-boston.org
- Association of Government Accountants .....www.agacgfm.org
- AGA Boston Chapter.....www.aga-boston-chapter.org
- AGA Aroostook County Chapter.....www.arostookcountyaga.org
- AGA Hartford Chapter .....www.agahartford.org
- AGA Maine Chapter.....www.gwi.net/~aga/
- COSO..... www.coso.org
- First Gov ..... www.firstgov.gov
- Governmental Accounting Standards Board..... www.gasb.org
- Government Executive .....www.govexec.com
- Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) .....www.theiia.org
- Intergovernmental Audit Forum.....www.auditforum.org
- International Accounts Payable Professionals (IAPP).....www.iappnet.org
- National Assoc of State Auditors, Comptrollers & Treasurers.....www.nasact.org
- National Assoc of State Comptrollers.....www.nasact.org/community/nasc.html
- National Assoc of State Treasurers.....www.nasact.org/community/nast.html
- National State Auditors Association.....www.nasact.org/community/nsaa.html
- National Electronic Commerce Coordinating Council .....www.ec3.org

**SEPTEMBER brings  
Labor Day and  
"Chicken Month".**

**So let's enjoy one last  
barbeque by throwing on  
some chicken!**

