

Maine Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants

2013-2014 Chapter History Report

During Membership Year 2013-2014, the Maine Chapter welcomed 22 new members, ending the year with 136 active members. The Chapter continued its focus on education and community service, offering 25 CPE credits, and organizing four community service events.

Education

For education, the Chapter had two goals: to provide a broad exposure to issues in government; and, to support our CGFMs in obtaining the necessary CPEs. Strategies for reaching these goals included the utilization of the Association's periodic webinars, and the coordination of educational speakers for most monthly Chapter meetings. Details on both are included in the table below.

AGA Webinars (18 CPE Credits)	Educational Speakers (7 CPE Credits)
<i>Data Analytics</i> November 6, 2013	<i>Consumer Protection Strategies</i> September 17, 2013, 1 CPE
<i>Grants Management Reform Updates</i> November 13, 2013 (rescheduled from October)	<i>GASB and Other Developments Affecting MEPERS</i> October 8, 2013, 1 CPE
<i>How to Stay Cutting Edge in Tough Financial Times</i> November 20, 2013	<i>Information Assurance and Cyber Security</i> November 12, 2013, 1 CPE
<i>Taking the High Road: How to Succeed Ethically When Others Bend the Rules</i> December 11, 2013	<i>Fraud Detection Cases</i> December 10, 2013, 1 CPE
<i>Tackling Improper Payments</i> January 29, 2014	<i>Insights on State Government</i> January 14, 2014, 1 CPE
<i>Assessing the Reliability of Performance Data</i> March 5, 2014	<i>Risk Areas from an OPEGA Perspective</i> February 11, 2014, 1 CPE
<i>Fraud Prevention</i> April 9, 2014	<i>Leading With A Smile</i> March 10, 2014, 1 CPE
<i>Performance Management</i> May 7, 2014	<i>Fiscal Responsibility with Governor LePage</i> April 8, 2014
<i>Understanding the DATA Act</i> June 11, 2014	<i>Chapter Awards Ceremony</i> May 12, 2014

Community Service

For community service, support of local agencies remained a top priority. Throughout the year, four events raised funds and collected items for local charities. The Chapter started off the year by collecting Back-to-School items and funds for the *Family Violence Project*, an organization that helps victims of abuse and their children. Through the fall and into the new year, cold weather items, such as hats, mittens and warm socks, were collected for *Addie's Attic*, a service offered through St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Augusta that distributes clothing to needy individuals. This was followed by a food drive for the *Augusta Food Bank*. In May, our final event of the year was a fun bowl-a-thon to raise money for the local chapter of *Big Brothers and Big Sisters*.

Chapter Meetings and Minutes

These educational and community service events were coordinated jointly by members of the Chapter Executive Committee (CEC). The CEC met on July 30, 2013 to plan for the upcoming year and then typically met briefly

after each monthly Chapter meeting. Chapter meetings, which included a luncheon and speaker, were usually held on the second Tuesday of each month in Augusta. Meeting dates coincide with the educational speakers listed in the table above. Minutes of each meeting are published in the monthly Chapter newsletter, which is distributed electronically to each member and is posted on the Chapter website. <http://home.gwi.net/~aga/>

Chapter Elections and Awards

Chapter Officers are elected each year, with the exception of the President, who is selected as President-Elect in the preceding year. Chapter Directors are elected in alternating years to two-year terms. Four Directors are elected each year. Chapter Officers and Directors for the 2013-2014 Membership year, as well as those elected in May 2014 for the upcoming year, are listed below.

	<u>2013-2014</u>	<u>2014-2015</u>
<u>Officers:</u>		
President	Jenny Boyden, CGFM	Phillip Platt, CGFM
President-Elect	Phillip Platt, CGFM	Bill Fox
Secretary	Kimberly Smith, CGFM	Leanne Laverdiere
Treasurer	Susan Reynolds and Kim Hall	Kim Hall
<u>Directors:</u>		
Bylaws & Procedures	April Newman, CPA	(2 nd year of term)
Communications	Angela Dickinson	(2 nd year of term)
Community Service	Jeffrey Toothaker, CGFM	Kathy Godfrey
Early Careers	Sabrina Poon	(2 nd year of term)
Education	Ted Trebilcock	Katharine Wiltuck, JD, CIA
Membership	vacant	
Professional Certification	Cheryl Libby	(2 nd year of term)
Programs & Technical Mtgs	vacant	Derek Gorneau

In addition to the elections, the May 2014 meeting also included the announcement of three Chapter awards. The *President's Choice Award* was given to April Newman and Kim Hall for their dedication to correcting issues with the Chapter's tax-exempt status. Resolving the issues involved a significant amount of research, and many conversations with the IRS. The *Chapter Service Award* was given to Jody Breton, CGFM. Since the Chapter's establishment, Jody has served on the CEC in many capacities, and continued to support the Chapter as a member-leader. The Maine Chapter would not be as successful without her support. Also, Commissioner H. Sawin Millett received the *Lifetime Achievement Award*. Commissioner Millett retired after serving the Maine people for over 40 years. Over his career in the Executive and Legislative branches, he worked closely with many Chapter members, and was key to setting fiscal policy for the State of Maine.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kimberly Smith, CGFM
Maine Chapter Secretary
August 26, 2014