



Central Arkansas Chapter

# Central Arkansas AGA Chapter

October 2023



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**AGA**, founded in 1950, is the professional membership organization focused on advancing government accountability. AGA is recognized nationally as the only association that supports nearly 12,000 members made up of professionals working in, for and with federal, state, local and tribal agencies. AGA has over 90 organized chapters.

## Central Arkansas Chapter

The Central Arkansas Chapter with approximately 140 members is currently the largest chapter in the South-Central Region. The Chapter was organized in 1977 by Mr. Orvel M. Johnson who served as the first chapter president. With more than 40 years of experience, the Central Arkansas Chapter continues to promote the AGA's national strategic goals by serving the government financial management community in the following ways:

- Promoting government accountability, transparency and performance
- Keeping members abreast of industry updates
- Offering scholarships and leadership opportunities
- Participating in several charity events and raising funds for worthy causes
- Hosting social events for networking opportunities

## Vision

AGA is the premier association for advancing government accountability.

## Mission

AGA is a professional association advancing accountability, transparency, and leadership by promoting education, certification, innovation, and collaboration across all levels of government and to stakeholders.

## Core Values

- Service
- Accountability
- Integrity
- Leadership

## Website

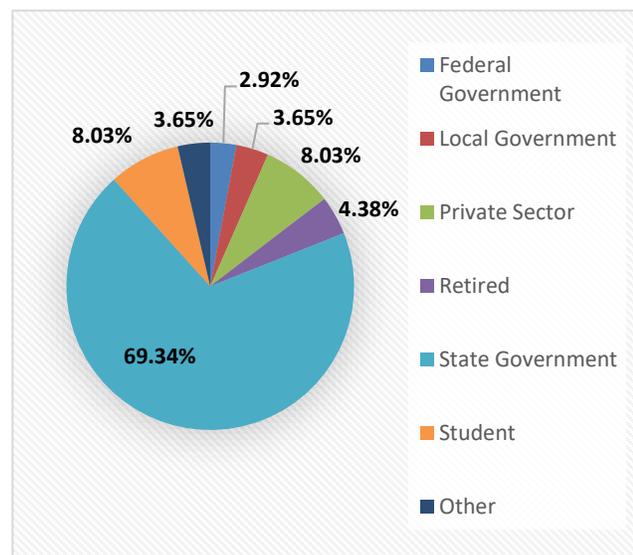
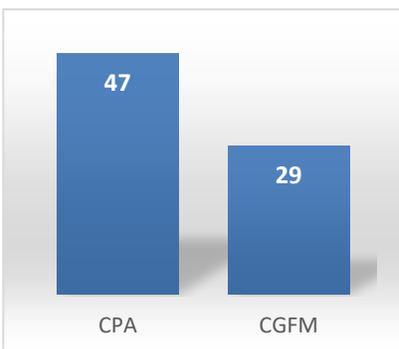
[www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/CentralArkansas/Home.aspx](http://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/CentralArkansas/Home.aspx)



AGA Central Arkansas Chapter

## Who Are We?

The Central Arkansas Chapter currently has 137 members and is one of the 25 largest chapters in the country. The majority of our members are State employees (69.34%). We also have members from the Private Sector (8.03%); Local Government (3.65%); Students (8.03%); Federal Government (2.92%), and Retirees (4.38%). AGA members range from elected officials and senior executives to entry-level employees. Of our current membership, 21% are CGFM certified and 34% are CPA certified.



# Performance

## Program Year 2022-2023

### Service

The Central Arkansas Chapter continues to support our community through various community service activities. In the past year the Central Arkansas chapter held a Christmas Holiday Social event which also functioned as a fundraiser for Angel Tree through the Salvation Army. In addition, we provided gift cards as part of a fundraiser for AGA's National Community Service Fund.



*Holiday Social and Angel Tree Fundraiser*



*Arkansas Food Bank Donations*

### Integrity

#### Chapter Awards

The chapter presented awards to members for outstanding service to the chapter and to the state of Arkansas. Jeff Mascagni, CPA, CGFM, CPFO, Chief Financial Officer, Central Arkansas Water, received the Financial Manager of the Year award.



*Jeff Mascagni (left), Donald Bellcock(right)*

### Challenges Ahead

"Remember, no one can do everything, but everyone can do something" Tyler Cain, CAAGA Past President. Each AGA member is tasked with maximizing each member's value to our AGA Chapter. We continue to strive to serve our local community and the state of Arkansas, through service, Integrity, Leadership and our commitment to Accountability.

### Accountability

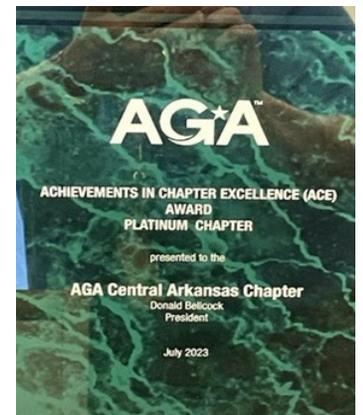
#### National Awards

Our chapter received the Platinum ACE award this past July during the PDT in Orlando, Florida. Special thanks to Donald Bellcock, Tyler Cain, Jessica Primm, Donna Facen, Lisa Antinori, and the entire CEC leadership team for earning this award.

The Achievements in Chapter Excellence (ACE) Awards Program recognizes individual chapter performance and provides a standard by which each AGA chapter maintains a well-rounded operation for the professional growth of its members.



*Donald Bellcock accepted the ACE Platinum Award on behalf of the Central Arkansas AGA chapter. The award was presented at the National PDT in Orlando, Florida.*

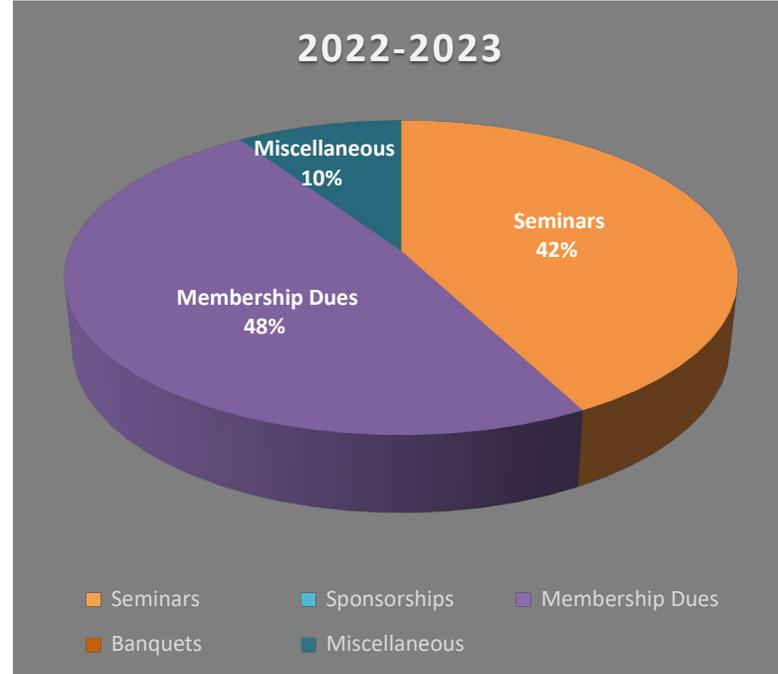


*Platinum Chapter ACE Award July 2023*

### Chapter Revenue

Revenue	2023	2022	2021
Seminars	\$ 930	\$ 73	\$ -
Sponsorships	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Membership Dues	\$ 1,062	\$ 1,712	\$ 890
Banquets	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ 206	\$ 50	\$ 25
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,198</b>	<b>\$ 1,835</b>	<b>\$ 915</b>

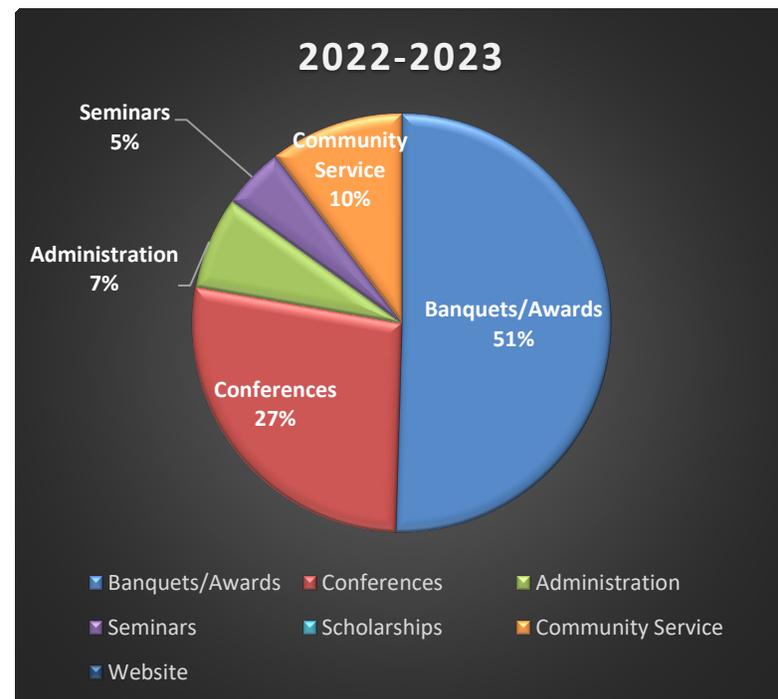
While membership declined in the 2023 program year revenue overall increased. This was a result of the chapter putting on an in-person spring seminar for the first time in 3 years.



### Chapter Expenses

Expenses	2023	2022	2021
Banquets/Awards	\$ 2,383	\$ 862	\$ -
Conferences	\$ 1,290	\$ 250	\$ -
Administration	\$ 337	\$ 879	\$ 248
Seminars	\$ 225	\$ -	\$ -
Scholarships	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Community Service	\$ 487	\$ 600	\$ 125
Website	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,722</b>	<b>\$ 2,591</b>	<b>\$ 373</b>

The return to in-person events such as the Holiday Social Fundraiser and spring seminar led to an increase in expenses. Our chapter also sponsored part of 2 members PDT expenses. Additionally, our chapter sponsored two Angel Tree kids at Christmas last year along with providing gift cards to the National Community Service Fund raffle.



**Independent Review** An independent review will be completed. Completed financial information may be obtained by contacting the Chapter Treasurer, at Central [ArkansasAGA.Treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:ArkansasAGA.Treasurer@gmail.com)

# Future Outlook

## Program Year 2023–2024

### Upcoming Events

The Central Arkansas Chapter strives to contribute to the community as well as to its members. Annually the Chapter sponsors an accounting scholarship at local universities, provides educational opportunities to its members with two days of seminars, and supports worthy community service projects. The annual awards banquet is held each June to honor the Financial Manager of the Year and chapter members who have made significant contributions during the year. In December, the holidays are celebrated with a social event.

Some of our upcoming events are as follows:

- Monthly membership meetings are held virtually the third Tuesday of each month.
- In December the chapter will be hosting its annual Holiday Social in Little Rock, Arkansas

### CGFM

The foundation of the CGFM is the requirement for Education, Experience and Examination. Building on this foundation is a Code of Ethics and required Continuing Professional Education (CPE). This designation is already recognized as a professional standard. Each year, more and more federal agencies and state and local governments are realizing the value of the CGFM and are formally embracing the designation. It is often listed as a preferred hiring qualification on federal RFPs. The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) Board of Regents has also recognized the CGFM. It is accepted as a waiver for part IV of the CIA examination.



Get CGFM Certified Today!

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

The Chapter will continue to offer two CGFM scholarships each program year to active chapter members to aid in the cost of exam fees.

### Chapter Leaders

#### President

Andrea Barksdale

#### President Elect

Lisa Antinori

#### Past President

Donald Bellcock, AGM

#### Treasurer

Donna Facen

#### Secretary

Gerald Plafcan, CPA-Retired,  
CFE-Retired, CGFM-Retired

#### Director of Accountability & Bylaws

James Caldwell, CGFM

#### Director of Education

Jessica E. Primm, CPA

#### Director of CGFM/Professional Certification

Angeline Huey

#### Director of Communications

Vacant

#### Director of Membership & Early Careers

Dr. Cynthia Taylor

#### Director of Meetings & Awards

Vacant

#### Director of Community Service

Elouise Evans & Brenda Jackson

#### Chapter Historian

Tyler Cain, CGFM

The Chapter continues to encourage its members to pursue the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) designation. To accomplish this, the Chapter plans to obtain the governor's proclamation of March 2024 as CGFM month in the State of Arkansas and the mayor's proclamation of March 2024 as CGFM month in the City of Little Rock. The Chapter also plans to offer study sessions for this designation in 2024.

Do you like this report? How do you think it could be improved? Provide your feedback to the Director of Accountability, James Caldwell, [james.r.caldwell@arkansas.gov](mailto:james.r.caldwell@arkansas.gov)