



Central Arkansas Chapter

Central Arkansas AGA Chapter

October 2024



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.

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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

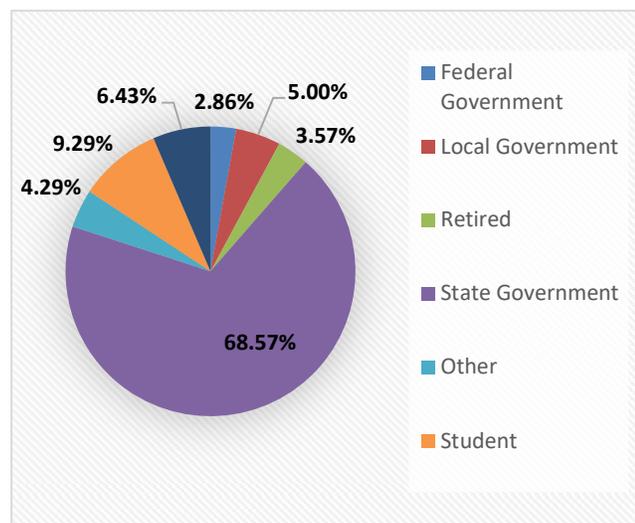
www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/CentralArkansas/Home.aspx



AGA Central Arkansas Chapter

Who Are We?

The Central Arkansas Chapter currently has 140 members and is one of the 25 largest chapters in the country. The majority of our members are State employees (68.57%). We also have members from the Private Sector (6.43%); Local Government (5.00%); Students (9.29%); Federal Government (2.86%), and Retirees (3.57%). AGA members range from elected officials and senior executives to entry-level employees. Of our current membership, 18% are CGFM certified and 35% are CPA certified.



Performance

Program Year 2023–2024

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 fundraiser for Angel Tree through the Salvation Army. In addition, we cleaned up a street in Little Rock and participated in various drives such as Socktober sock drive.



SAU-Marching Band – Socktober Community Service Volunteers



PDT 2024 Attendees left to right: Tyler Cain, Sandy & Patricia Becker, James Caldwell, Andrea Barksdale & Lisa Antinori



Holiday Social at Fassler Hall

Chapter Awards

The chapter presented awards to members for outstanding service to the chapter and to the state of Arkansas. Tyler Cain, CGFM, Chief Financial Officer, Arkansas Department of Labor and Licensing, received the Financial Manager of the Year award.

Leadership



Andrea Barksdale (left), Tyler Cain (right)



1st Row. Rhonda Barfield, Donna Facen, Lisa Antinori, Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders, Elouise Evans, Linda Bouillon, Marcia Huber. 2nd Row Vincent Russell, Tyler Cain, James Graham, James Caldwell.

Accountability

National Awards

Our chapter received the Platinum ACE award this past July during the PDT in Denver, Colorado. Special thanks to Andrea Barksdale, 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.



Andrea Barksdale accepted the ACE Platinum Award on behalf of the Central Arkansas AGA chapter. The award was presented at the National PDT in Denver, Colorado.

Integrity

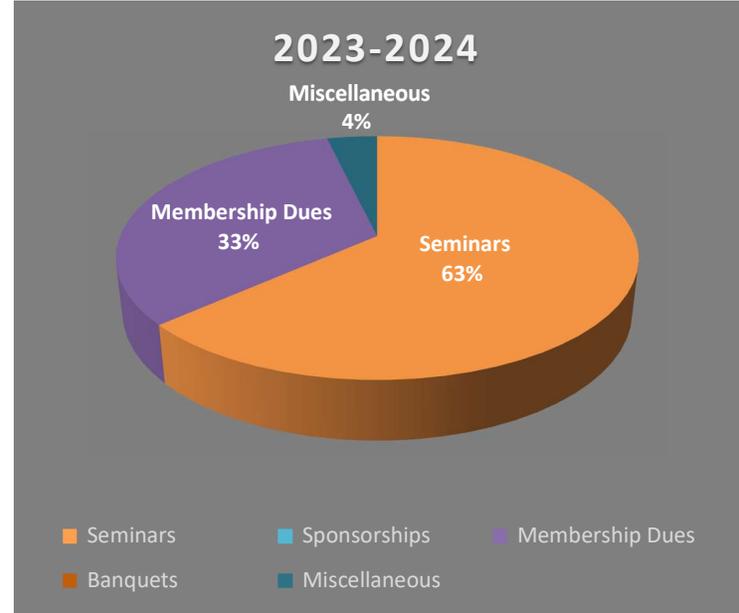


Andrea Barksdale was recognized as an AGA National Volunteer of the Year.

Chapter Revenue

Sources	2024	2023	2022
Seminars	\$4,306	\$930	\$73
Sponsorships	0	-	-
Membership Dues	\$2,233	\$1,062	\$1,712
Banquets	0	-	-
Miscellaneous	\$250	\$206	\$50
Total	\$6,789	\$2,198	\$1,835

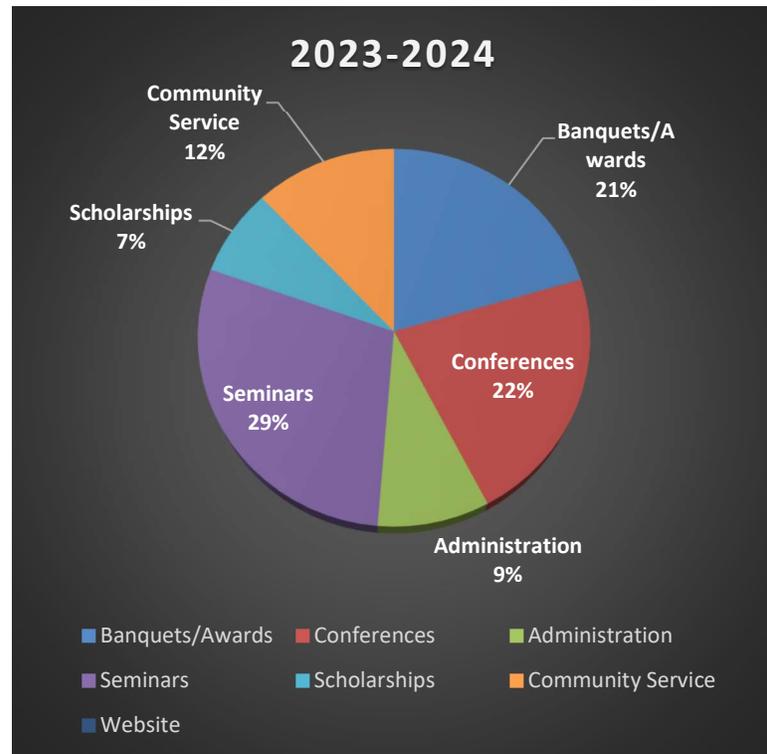
Membership increased slightly in the 2024 program year. The chapter also kept the momentum going from the 2023 Spring PDT with an even more successful 2024 Spring PDT focused on Grant Accounting. This all lead to increased revenue for the chapter.



Chapter Expenses

Expenses	2024	2023	2022
Banquets/Awards	\$ 655	\$ 2,383	\$ 862
Conferences	\$ 696	\$ 1,290	\$ 250
Administration	\$ 286	\$ 337	\$ 879
Seminars	\$ 929	\$ 225	\$ -
Scholarships	\$ 240	\$ -	\$ -
Community Service	\$ 387	\$ 487	\$ 600
Website	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 3,192	\$ 4,722	\$ 2,591

The chapter was able to put on our annual PDT, Holiday Social and Awards banquet while finding ways to reduce costs. Our chapter also sponsored part of 1 members PDT expenses. Additionally, our chapter sponsored five Angel Tree kids at Christmas last year.



Independent Review An independent review has been completed with no issues noted. Completed financial information may be obtained by contacting the Chapter Treasurer, at Central ArkansasAGA.Treasurer@gmail.com

Future Outlook

Program Year 2024–2025

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 at least 1 seminar, 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
- In March 2025 the chapter will host a Spring PDT

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 \$240 CGFM scholarships each program year to active chapter members to aid in the cost of exam fees.

Chapter Leaders

President

Lisa Antinori, CGMA

President Elect

James Caldwell, CGFM

Past President

Andrea Barksdale

Treasurer

Donna Facen

Secretary

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

Director of Accountability & Bylaws

Dr. Cynthia Taylor, CPA

Director of Education

Trevor Gibbons, CPA

Director of CGFM/Professional Certification

Vacant

Director of Communications

Vacant

Director of Membership & Early Careers

Donald Bellcock, AGM

Director of Meetings & Awards

Vacant

Director of Community Service

Elouise Evans

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 2025 as CGFM month in the State of Arkansas and the mayor's proclamation of March 2025 as CGFM month in the City of Little Rock.

Do you like this report? How do you think it could be improved? Provide your feedback to the President-Elect, James Caldwell, james.r.caldwell@arkansas.gov