

North Central Region Newsletter

August 2015

Issue I

**“Serving All AGA Chapters In The States Of Illinois,
Indiana, Minnesota, and Wisconsin”**

Message From The RVP:

Greetings! I hope I find everyone excited to have started the 2015-2016 chapter year! This is my first newsletter as the Regional Vice President (RVP) for the North Central Region for the 2015-2016 chapter year. I hope you enjoy this newsletter and find it valuable in obtaining ideas for your chapter, learning what is expected of your chapter by the national office, sharing with you key initiatives I have as RVP, and learning what other chapters are doing. If you have any ideas to improve this newsletter, please let me know.

Finally, this newsletter is not a state secret, so feel free to share it with your chapter’s executive committee members, chapter members, post it on your chapter’s website, etc. If you would like anyone else from your chapter to get this newsletter directly from me via email, please let me know, and I will add that person’s email address to the distribution list.

Happy Summer!

Matthew Matczynski

Matthew Matczynski
Regional Vice President
North Central Region



From The National Office:

The National Executive Committee strongly encourages all chapters to adopt the newly revised Chapter Bylaws Prototype. AGA's National Bylaws and Procedures Committee recently made important updates to the Chapter Bylaws Prototype with the goal of aligning them with the changes made July 13, 2014 to AGA's National Bylaws and also with current practice. The most significant changes made to the Chapter Bylaws Prototype are updating the vision, mission, core values and purpose of AGA, adding information about the removal of chapter officers and directors, and reorganizing the chapter governance section. Please take this opportunity to have your chapter review and update your current bylaws to reflect the changes to the Chapter Bylaws Prototype.

*** Please note that AGA's National Bylaws requires all AGA chapters to have a current copy of their bylaws on file with the AGA National Office. Thus, no later than August 31, 2015, please submit a copy of your chapter's current bylaws to Jessica Jones at jjones@agacgfm.org. ***

Furthermore, to incentivize chapters to have bylaws that conform to the updated Chapter Bylaws Prototype, chapters will no longer be able to claim the 300 chapter recognition points in Section I Goal 1 A of the 2015-2016 Chapter Recognition Program until the AGA National Office confirms that the chapter bylaws conform to the updated Chapter Bylaw Prototype. To earn these 300 points, a chapter must send its bylaws that conform with the updated Chapter Bylaws Prototype to Jessica Jones at jjones@agacgfm.org. The AGA national office will then review the bylaws to determine if they generally follow the basic precepts prescribed and for consistency to the National AGA Bylaws. If the chapter bylaws are determined by the national office to meet the precepts and consistency requirements, the chapter will receive an acceptance letter from AGA's national office accepting the bylaws. Only until the chapter receives the acceptance letter can the chapter claim the 300 points. This process must be successfully completed by May 31, 2016 for the chapter to claim the 300 points for the 2015-2016 program year.

All AGA chapter presidents should have received an email from Jessica Jones regarding the updated Chapter Bylaws Prototype. If your chapter president did not obtain such an email, or if you have any questions, please contact Jessica Jones at jjones@agacgfm.org or Regional Vice President Matt Matczynski at Mmatczynski@hudoig.gov.

Something To Consider:

If your chapter has not already done so, I would highly encourage your chapter to create an annual report of accomplishments and service to members. Although this report can in theory be created anytime, if it is completed within 90 days of your chapter's year end, your chapter can earn valuable chapter recognition points. Furthermore, this report can be used as a useful tool by your chapter to retain existing chapter members and recruit new chapter members by showing all the activities and

accomplishments of your chapter. This report is a nice recap of the 2014-2015 chapter year and is your chapter's opportunity to tell the world how great your chapter is! Please see AGA's Chapter Recognition Program handbook for more information.

Regional Initiative:

I would like to discuss the first regional initiative of the 2015-2016 chapter year, which is promoting the Government Finance Case Challenge. To give some background, the AGA National Office is once again holding the Government Finance Case Challenge, in which teams of undergraduate accounting, business, financial management, and public administration students from colleges and universities across the country compete against each other. In this year's challenge, each team will collaboratively analyze data for a specified U.S. state, city or county government and develop a Citizen-Centric Report (CCR). The AGA National Office is seeking our assistance in promoting this case challenge.

It would be exciting if we had multiple teams from local colleges and universities represent the North Central region by competing in this challenge, and it would be a great honor if a team from a local college or university won the challenge. However, one cannot win this challenge if one does not participate; thus I urge you to get the word out and get your chapter to support this case challenge. Please contact your executive committee (especially your Early Careers board member) to inform them of this challenge. I would also ask that you consider contacting your regular chapter members to encourage them to contact their alma mater and their local colleges and universities to encourage participation in this challenge. Please also consider using your chapter's contacts with the local colleges and universities and make a direct appeal to your chapter's student and early career members too.

Furthermore, another way your chapter can contribute to this initiative of promoting AGA's Government Finance Case Challenge is for your chapter to provide support to the local teams participating in this challenge, such as via both time and money. Although chapter members cannot do the actual work on this challenge for obvious reasons (except for your chapter members that are undergraduate students and are part of an official team), consider helping local teams out in other ways. Examples include recruiting chapter members to serve as team advisors, have chapter members give presentations to college and university students to introduce them to the AGA's Citizen Centric Report program, etc. Furthermore, consider supporting local teams financially, such as providing Starbucks gift cards to the participants, funding a pizza & pop (soda) party for the team or other food/snacks/beverages at the team meetings, providing AGA logo merchandise such as polo shirts, caps, pens, portfolios, etc. to the team participants, etc. Any kind of support and assistance your chapter can provide the local teams will help get colleges and universities to participate, and will help strengthen your chapter's relations with such colleges and universities, as well as the students. Consider using your support of the local teams as a way of reaching out and meeting college students, educating them on AGA, your chapter and its benefits, and develop relationships with them. Furthermore, the students themselves will appreciate anything your chapter can provide, especially anything free, whether it be free food or a polo shirt ...

even something as small as a free AGA pen would be appreciated. The college students participating in this challenge are volunteering their time to participate as well, and have many alternative ways to spend their time. As former college students ourselves, many of us can relate to how valuable a free meal or a free shirt is as a college student!

Finally, if nothing else, consider having your chapter's executive committee pass a resolution supporting the AGA Government Finance Case Challenge. Although this may sound like a small gesture, the fact your chapter is going on record to officially support the AGA Government Finance Case Challenge will mean a lot to the national office, as well as all the volunteers working on this challenge and the teams themselves.

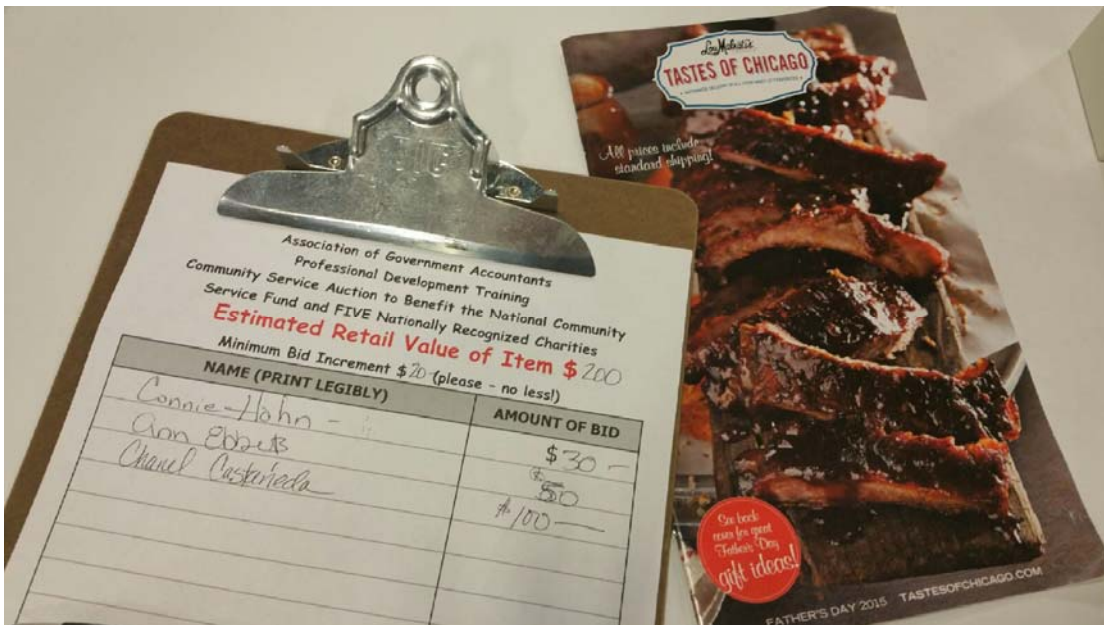
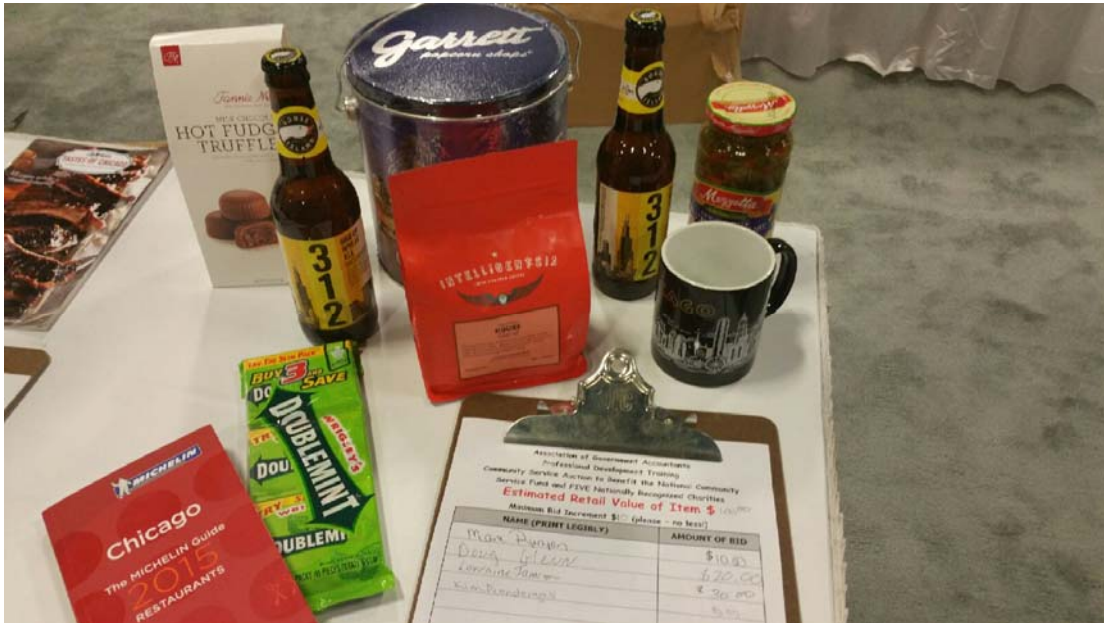
Team registration for this challenge began on July 1, 2015, so registration is now open. Although there is plenty of time to support this challenge and recruit colleges and universities to participate, please keep in mind that the team registration for the challenge closes on September 28, 2015. For more information, such as the official rules, and for team registration, please see the AGA national website at <https://www.agacgfm.org/Case-Challenge/Welcome.aspx>. Also, please see the following well-written article from 2014-2015 AGA National President Bill Miller regarding the challenge: https://www.agacgfm.org/AGA/TOPICS/2014/082514/perspectives_082514.pdf.

Please let RVP Matt Matczynski know of any actions your chapter takes in support of this Regional Initiative!

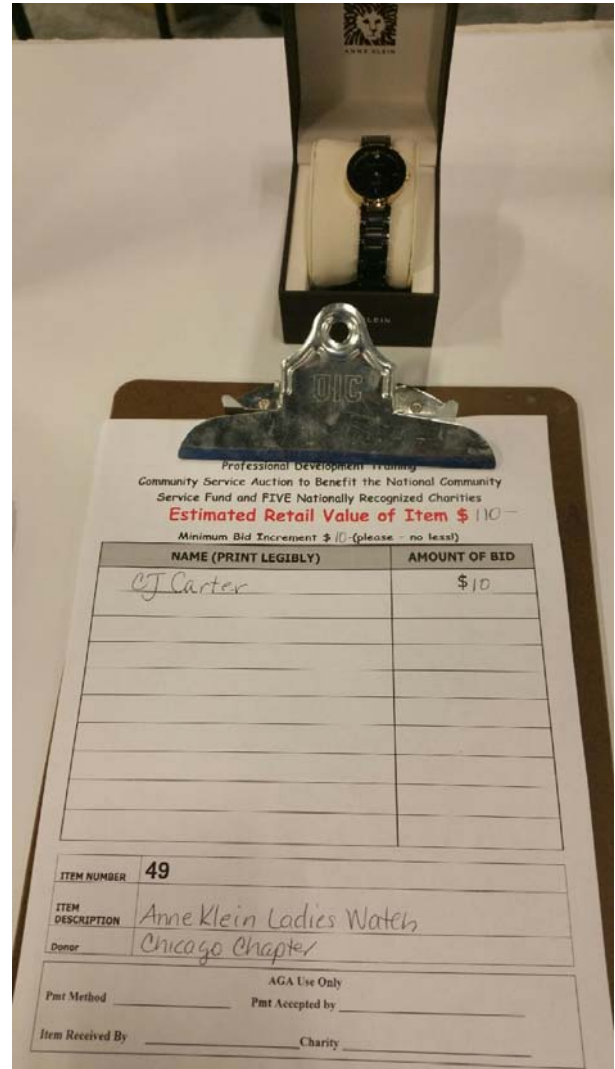
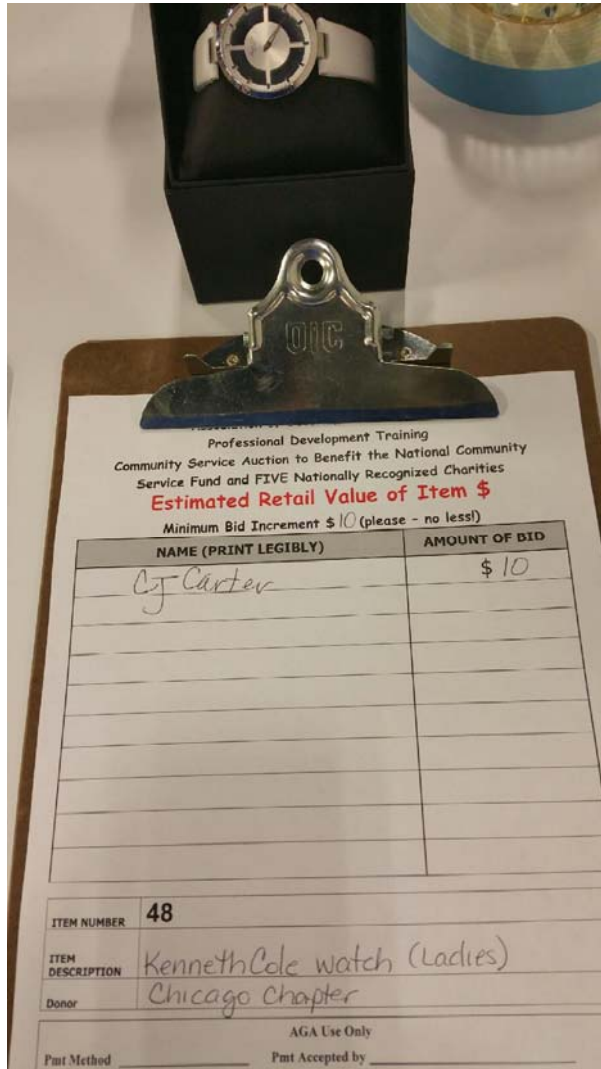


Regional News:

A special thank you to the Chicago chapter for their very generous contribution to the 2015 National Community Service Silent Auction at the National PDT in Nashville, TN. The Chicago chapter contributed a gift basket of items from the Chicagoland area (first picture below). Additionally, for those PDT attendees that did not wish to carry home or consume before leaving Nashville such items but still wished to obtain the flavor of Chicago while supporting a great cause, the Chicago chapter also donated a Taste of Chicago gift card package. The winner of this package gets to receive tasty local Chicagoland food shipped to him/her nationwide (second picture below).



Also a big thank you to Chicago chapter member (and Chicago chapter past-president) Elaine Igelman, who donated two women's watches to the silent auction. Thank you for your generosity!



*** Do you have news from your chapter you wish to share in the regional newsletter? If so, I would love to hear from you! Please contact Matt Matczynski at Mmatczynski@hudoig.gov with your news, stories, pictures, meeting schedules, etc. and I would be more than happy to include it in the next edition of the regional newsletter! ***

The AGA Chicago chapter sent four executive committee members to the 2015 National PDT in Nashville, TN, and also had numerous chapter members attend as well. If the picture received from the Chicago chapter is accurate, unfortunately for the Chicago chapter three of the chapter's executive committee members as well as a chapter member will not be returning to Chicago as they have become Nashville stars!



Upcoming Events:

Does your chapter have any educational and networking / social events planned that are open to AGA participants from outside your chapter? Would you like to spread word of your events with the other chapters in the North Central Region? If so, please contact Matt Matczynski at Mmatczynski@hudoig.gov with details of your upcoming chapter events, and they will be placed in the next regional newsletter!

Upcoming Deadlines:

Mandatory Deadline:

- August 31, 2015 – send current chapter bylaws to Jessica Jones at jjones@agacgfm.org

Other Deadlines: (ex. to earn “bonus” or regular chapter recognition points, etc.)

- 90 days after chapter year end – Annual Report of Accomplishments to earn points
- 90 days after chapter year end – audit / review of chapter finances to earn points
- September 30, 2015 – prepare a chapter Citizen Centric Report (CCR) to earn points
- May 31, 2016 – submit bylaws that conform to the updated Chapter Bylaws Prototype to Jessica Jones at jjones@agacgfm.org and receive an acceptance letter that the bylaws meet requirements to earn points.

Other North Central Region Chapter Newsletters:

Do you or anyone on your chapter’s executive committee / any chapter members wish to receive newsletters from the other North Central region chapters? If the answer is yes, please contact Matt Matczynski at Mmatczynski@hudoig.gov. I will do my best to get you added to the other chapters’ newsletter distribution lists. Also, if your chapter posts its newsletters on your chapter website and has a link to the specific section of the chapter’s website, please let Matt know.

The Chicago chapter posts its newsletters to the chapter website. Please see the following for a link to the chapter’s newsletters: <http://www.chicagoaga.org/newsletters/>. The Chicago chapter also sends an email out containing a link to new chapter newsletters when they become available. If you wish to be added to the Chicago chapter distribution list to receive an email when a new newsletter is available, please contact Matt Matczynski at Mmatczynski@hudoig.gov.

Important North Central Regional Contacts:

Senior Vice President of Regional Services (SVPRS) – Section I

Julie Burns, CGFM

julia.burns@state.ma.us

Boston Chapter Member

Term Ends: 6/30/2018

* Note that there are many SVPRS. Julia is the SVPRS for Section 1, which comprises multiple regions, including our North Central Region. Thus, Julia oversees the North Central Region.

Regional Vice President (RVP)

Matthew Matczynski

Mmatczynski@hudoig.gov

(312) 913-8644

Chicago Chapter Member

Term Ends: 6/30/2016

Past Regional Vice President

Sherri Voigt

sherriv@live.com

Southern Wisconsin Chapter Member

Term Ends: 6/30/2016

Regional Vice President-Elect

Position Vacant – please contact Matt Matczynski if interested in this position.

North-Central Region Regional Coordinators:

Accountability Regional Coordinator

Position Vacant – please contact Matt Matczynski if interested in this position.

Certification Regional Coordinator

Michele McGaffin, CGFM, CPA

Michele.mcgaffin@dpi.wi.gov

Southern Wisconsin Chapter Member

Term Ends: 6/30/2017

Chapter Development and Assistance Regional Coordinator

Position Vacant – please contact MattMatczynski if interested in this position.

Education Regional Coordinator

CJ Carter

Cjcarter0924@gmail.com

Chicago Chapter Member

Term Ends: 6/30/2016

Membership and Early Careers Regional Coordinator

Maranda Summers

Maranda.e.summers.civ@mail.mil

Indianapolis Chapter

Term Ends: 6/30/2016

North-Central Region Chapter Presidents & Websites (By State):

Illinois

Chicago

President: Hugh Smith

Email: HSMITH@BROOKWEINER.COM

Chapter Website: <http://www.agachicago.org/>

Springfield

President: To Be Determined

Email: N/A

Chapter Website: N/A

Indiana

Central Indiana

President: Carolyn Adams, CPA

Email: CAdams@indypl.org

Chapter Website: <http://www.agacentralin.org/>

Circle City

President: To Be Determined

Email: N/A

Chapter Website: <http://www.agacirclecity.org/>

Indiana University Student Chapter

President: To Be Determined

Email: N/A

Chapter Website: N/A

Indianapolis

President: Cindy Garcia

Email: Cynthia.b.garcia4civ@mail.mil (please cc Amanda.l.pierce18.civ@mail.mil in all emails)

Chapter Website: <http://againdy.com/>

Minnesota

Minneapolis – St. Paul

Chapter Currently Inactive – however, there are over 30 AGA members who are currently associating themselves with the Minneapolis – St. Paul chapter. Please contact Regional Vice President Matt Matczynski at Mmatczynski@hudoig.gov if you become aware of any interest in reactivating this chapter or wish to volunteer to reactivate this chapter.

Wisconsin

Southern Wisconsin

President: Mary Laufenberg

Email: Fredmary6998@gmail.com

Chapter Website: <http://aga-wis.org/>

*** Does this directory contain incorrect / outdated information? If so, please contact Matt Matczynski with corrections at Mmatczynski@hudoig.gov. ***