

# North Central Region Newsletter

September 2015

Issue II

**"The #1 Rated Newsletter In The North Central Region"**

## **Message From The RVP:**

Greetings! I hope you have enjoyed your summer and that your chapter is well on its way to setting the foundation for a great chapter year. As I have mentioned last month, if I can be of any assistance in helping your chapter reach and exceed its goals, please let me know.

As we begin changing from summer to fall, I would like to make everyone aware of a key change in the AGA National office staff. Jessica Jones has decided to leave AGA. I personally found her to be a very pleasant person to work with in my years working with her, and she will be missed, as well as there will be big shoes to fill. Fortunately for us, Jessica's replacement has already been named. Louise Burnette is our new Chapter Services Manager, and she has already assumed this position. She can be reached at [lburnette@agacgfm.org](mailto:lburnette@agacgfm.org), or 800.242.7211 ext. 317. **Effective immediately, any matters you would normally contact Jessica Jones regarding please now contact Louise Burnette.** Also, if you have a moment, please reach out to Louise to congratulate her and welcome her to her new position.

The month of September is a very busy month for us. There are many key deadlines to meet in order to qualify to earn valuable chapter recognition points. Please see the deadline section below for more details. Items such as the Member Centric Report, Annual Report of Accomplishments and audit / review of chapter finances are due to earn chapter recognition points. Although it is still early in the chapter year, completing these items I believe will pay dividends to your chapter for the remainder of the chapter year. The Annual Report of Accomplishments and Member Centric Report can be used as marketing material for your chapter, the Member Centric Report can be used by your chapter to promote the Citizen Centric Report (CCR) program as an example of how a CCR should look, and an audit / review of chapter financials should hopefully allow everyone to sleep easier at night.

I thank everyone who participated in the first regional conference call on July 30<sup>th</sup>. It was great to meet everyone and learn what is going on at the chapter level throughout the region. I apologize for the last minute nature of the call, as although I put in a request for the conference call line several weeks prior, it took a while to obtain confirmation of the line due to the national office staff being busy planning and attending the National Professional Development Training (PDT). Given the delay, I tried pushing the

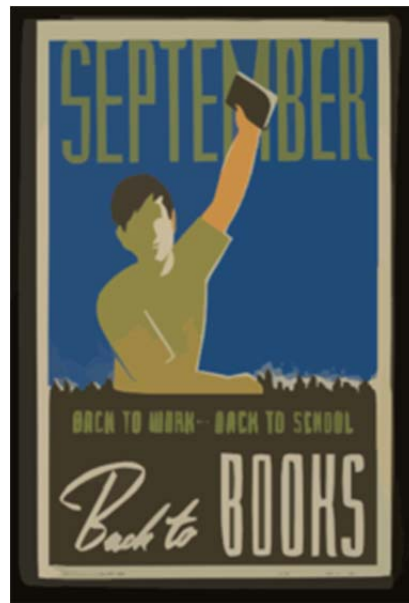
date back but the conference call line for the other potential dates was already reserved. I will try to do a better job next time, but again thank everyone who participated on such short notice.

Finally, I wish to thank you for your service to AGA. Without talented and dedicated people like you, we would not have as great of an organization as we have now. Your work touches many people at the chapter, regional, and national levels. Thank you!

Cordially,

*Matthew Matczynski*

Matthew Matczynski  
Regional Vice President  
North Central Region





## **From The National Office:**

- **New Chapter Services Manager**

Louise Burnette is excited to join the membership team. Her six years of experience with AGA make her the ideal fit to support our chapters! You can reach her at [lburnette@agacgfm.org](mailto:lburnette@agacgfm.org) or 800.242.7211 ext. 317.

- **Chapter Recognition Program Due Dates**

- First Quarter: September 30, 2015
- Second Quarter: December 31, 2015
- Third Quarter: March 31, 2016
- Fourth Quarter: May 31, 2016

- **Young Professionals and Students Best Practices**

The AGA National office needs your assistance! What is your chapter doing to recruit young professionals and engage students? What's successful and what isn't? Let the national office know so a list of best practices can be developed and shared with other chapters. Email your chapter's success stories to [agamembers@agacgfm.org](mailto:agamembers@agacgfm.org). The list of best practices gathered will be posted to the Chapter Resources section of the AGA National website.

- **Use Flickr to Fill Your Websites and Newsletters**

AGA's new Flickr account at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/134156609@N05/albums> can be a great resource when looking to promote chapter involvement at national events, such as the national PDT. Feel free to use the photos found on this website for chapter newsletters and websites.

- **Want a Chapter Visit From a National Officer or the CEO?**

The AGA National office now has an online form on the Chapter Resources section of its site to request a chapter visit from a national officer or the CEO. A chapter representative should fill

out the form and submit, then the national office staff will review schedules and help arrange the visit. Please email [lburnette@agacgfm.org](mailto:lburnette@agacgfm.org) with any questions.

- **AGA Webinars Make for Great Chapter Events!**

Consider purchasing AGA webinars for your chapter and using them for chapter events. Each webinar offers unlimited attendance for \$289, and it is a great value-added benefit for your chapter members. Please see <https://www.agacgfm.org/Events-CPE/Webinars.aspx> for more information and a schedule of upcoming webinars. Discount rates are available for chapters that purchase four or more webinars. If purchasing four or more webinars, please see <https://www.agacgfm.org/AGA/WebConferences/Webinars-2015-2016-Group-Package-Discount-Reg-Form.pdf> for the Group Package Discount Registration Form.

- **Keep Members Informed**

Are all of your chapter members' email addresses up to date? Member email addresses can change with a new job, domain change, or a new preferred email account. As the National Office primarily communicates with members via email, it is important that all members have up to date email addresses on file with the national office. Urge your members to keep their email addresses updated using the Subscription Preferences section of the national website. If you know of email changes for chapter members, you can also contact the national office to get the changes made at [agamembers@agacgfm.org](mailto:agamembers@agacgfm.org).

- **NASBA-approved CPE credits**

When required, chapter education chairs should ensure the chapter is registered with its appropriate State Board of Accountancy to offer CPEs for training events. Please note, AGA's national NASBA number should NOT be used by chapters. Chapters seeking to issue NASBA CPEs should instead obtain and use their own chapter NASBA number. Chapters can obtain a NASBA number by becoming a NASBA-approved provider of CPEs. For more information on NASBA CPEs, go to [www.nasba.org](http://www.nasba.org). Email [education@agacgfm.org](mailto:education@agacgfm.org) with questions or for more information.

## **Things To Consider:**

If your chapter put forth the effort to create a chapter Member Centric Report by September 30<sup>th</sup>, why not take the next step by entering your chapter Member Centric Report into AGA's Certificate of Excellence Review Program. Not only will your chapter obtain valuable feedback on what your chapter did well and tips on how to improve your chapter's next Member Centric Report, but your chapter also earns valuable chapter recognition points and may also obtain the prestigious Certificate of Excellence in Citizen Centric Reporting. Best of all, the application process is free, quick and easy. If your chapter took the time to create a chapter Member Centric Report, why not take an extra minute to submit your report to AGA's Certificate of Excellence Review Program. For more information, including the

application process, application form, and judging guidelines, please see [https://www.agacgfm.org/Tools-Resources/Citizen-Centric-Reporting-\(CCR\)/CCR-Certificate-of-Excellence.aspx](https://www.agacgfm.org/Tools-Resources/Citizen-Centric-Reporting-(CCR)/CCR-Certificate-of-Excellence.aspx).



As I mentioned last month, 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:**

Last month, I discussed the North Central Region's first regional initiative of the 2015-2016 chapter year, which is promoting the Government Finance Case Challenge. I gave some ideas on what your chapter could consider doing to support this initiative. If your chapter took any actions to support this initiative, RVP Matt Matczynski would like to know. Please email Mr. Matczynski at [Mmatczynski@hudoig.gov](mailto:Mmatczynski@hudoig.gov).

I am excited to announce the second regional initiative of the North Central Region for the 2015-2016 chapter year. This regional initiative is to promote awareness of AGA's Citizen Centric Report (CCR) program. There are many ways your chapter can support this initiative, and by supporting this initiative your chapter can earn valuable chapter recognition points. Examples include:

- Completing a chapter Member Centric Report (earn chapter recognition points – bonus points earned if done by September 30<sup>th</sup>).
- Enter your chapter's completed Member Centric Report in AGA's Certificate of Excellence Review Program (earn points).
- Post your chapter's Member Centric Report to the chapter website (earn points), email the report to chapter members, print hard copies of the report and make such copies available at chapter events.
- Establish a chapter Accountability Outreach Coordinator (earn points)
- Contact governments / agencies and encourage them to produce a CCR (earn points up to four contacts)
- Assist a government / agency to prepare a CCR (earn points)
- Assist a government / agency to publicize a CCR in local media outlets (if successful earn points)
- Government / agency in chapter area submits CCR to AGA for Certificate of Excellence review (earn points)

As you can see, there are many ways to support this initiative of promoting awareness of AGA's Citizen Centric Report (CCR) program. The easiest way to start is by establishing a Chapter Accountability Outreach Coordinator and fill this position. Next, create a Member Centric Report. If this is the first time your chapter is creating a report, don't worry ... it does not have to be perfect, as it can always be improved next year. By submitting the report to AGA's Certificate of Excellence Review Program, your chapter gets valuable feedback on what your chapter did well, and tips on how to improve your chapter's next Member Centric Report. Your chapter may even earn the Certificate of Excellence! For motivation to start your chapter's Member Centric Report, please keep in mind it is only 4 pages long, and the way to start is by writing the first page (by first I mean any of the four pages ... just get one done!). Once you get that page done, there is only 3 more pages to go. Then, once you get your Member Centric Report completed, use it as a template and a guide for other governments / agencies to create their Citizen Centric Reports. Is your chapter having difficulty convincing other governments / agencies to create their own Citizen Centric Reports? If so, consider encouraging subdivisions of such governments / agencies to create their own Citizen Centric Report. For example, if your chapter is having difficulty getting your local city / municipality to create a Citizen Centric Report, then try to get that city / municipality's police department to create their own Citizen Centric Report. If you are having difficulty with the police department, then talk to a different department to encourage a Citizen Centric Report to be written. Most cities / municipalities have many different departments ... fire department,

parks department, public works, etc. ... the same can be said of states, federal agencies, etc. If your chapter tries hard enough, eventually you will have success getting a department to create a Citizen Centric Report, even if you strike out at the city level. And who knows, maybe your chapter will have success getting multiple departments of the same city to create Citizen Centric Reports, resulting in many reports being created!

For information on AGA's Citizen Centric Report program, including templates that can be used to create CCRs and examples of completed CCRs from AGA chapters and governmental entities, see [https://www.agacgfm.org/Tools-Resources/Citizen-Centric-Reporting-\(CCR\).aspx](https://www.agacgfm.org/Tools-Resources/Citizen-Centric-Reporting-(CCR).aspx).

**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 past RVP and Southern Wisconsin chapter member Sherri Voigt for providing this picture of the 2015 Sectional Leadership Meeting North Central region attendees. The North Central Region attendees shown in this picture are:

- Carolyn Adams (Central Indiana chapter)
- Tom DiLisio (Chicago chapter)
- David Holt (Indianapolis chapter)
- Matthew Matczynski (Chicago chapter)
- Michelle Nail (Central Indiana chapter)
- Eric Shouse (Indiana University student chapter)
- Hugh Smith (Chicago chapter)
- Sherri Voigt (Southern Wisconsin chapter)

\*\*\* 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](mailto: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! \*\*\*



## **Upcoming Events:**

### **Chicago Chapter**

- The AGA Chicago Chapter is pleased to announce the first Continuing Education Seminar of the 2015-2016 chapter year. **Theresa McGill** of the **Internal Revenue Service** will be speaking on the topics of “**Fraud Against the IRS**” and “**The Effects of the Affordable Care Act on the IRS**” on Wednesday September 16<sup>th</sup>. The format of this seminar is a live speaker (not a webinar), and two CPEs will be offered. Please consider attending this event. More information, including how to RSVP, can be found below.

**Topic:** Fraud Against the IRS and The Effects of the Affordable Care Act on the IRS

**Speaker:** Theresa McGill, Senior Stakeholder Liaison for Communications & Stakeholder Outreach (CSO), Office of the Small Business/Self Employed (SB/SE) Operating Unit, Internal Revenue Service

**Format:** Live Speaker

**When:** Wednesday September 16<sup>th</sup>

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM (doors open / lunch 11:30 AM)

**Location:** GSA Conference Room 325

Metcalfe Federal Building

77 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604

**Cost: Members:** \$10 (Includes a box lunch)

**Non-Members:** \$20 (Includes a box lunch)

**CPEs Provided:** 2 CPEs

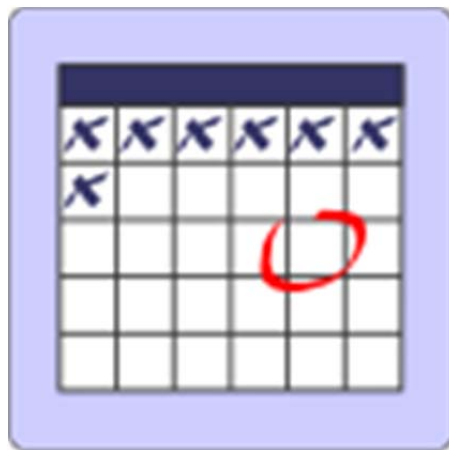
**\*\*\* Space is limited!!! To attend this event, you must RSVP by noon on Tuesday September 15<sup>th</sup> to: Matt Matczynski at [Mmatczynski@hudoig.gov](mailto:Mmatczynski@hudoig.gov) \*\*\***

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](mailto:Mmatczynski@hudoig.gov) with details of your upcoming chapter events, and they will be placed in the next regional newsletter!

## **Upcoming Deadlines:**

- 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 Member Centric Report to earn points
- September 30, 2015 – Chapter Recognition Program first quarter due date
- May 31, 2016 – submit bylaws that conform to the updated Chapter Bylaws Prototype to the national office and receive an acceptance letter that the bylaws meet requirements to earn points.



## **Important North Central Regional Contacts:**

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

Julie Burns, CGFM

[julia.burns@state.ma.us](mailto: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](mailto:Mmatczynski@hudoig.gov)

(312) 913-8644

Chicago Chapter Member

Term Ends: 6/30/2016

### **Past Regional Vice President**

Sherri Voigt

[sherriv@live.com](mailto: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**

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

### **Chapter Development and Assistance Regional Coordinator**

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

**Education Regional Coordinator**

CJ Carter

[Cjcarter0924@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:Maranda.e.summers.civ@mail.mil)

Indianapolis Chapter Member

Term Ends: 6/30/2016

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

**Illinois**

**Chicago**

President: Hugh Smith

Email: [HSMITH@BROOKWEINER.COM](mailto: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](mailto: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

Student Advisor: Antonette McCaster

Email: [asommerv@indiana.edu](mailto:asommerv@indiana.edu)

Chapter Website: N/A

### **Indianapolis**

President: Cindy Garcia

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

Chapter Website: <http://againindy.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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:Mmatczynski@hudoig.gov). \*\*\*