

Angela McElrath-Prosser  
Nashville Chapter President  
2016-2017



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Meeting**

Time for another exciting chapter year! The committees are planning great things for us this year. Community Service has already started with the school supply drive for Alex Green Elementary School. As the wife of a school teacher, I know how much the teachers appreciate the items we donate.

Volunteers are always needed and welcome to serve on the various chapter committees or the chapter events. Do you have a desire to help with Community Service? Perhaps, lend your organizational skills to help with the Chapter Events? An idea for speakers? We would love to hear from you.

At the National AGA level, the Annual Association of Government Accountants Professional Development Training in Anaheim was loaded with professional and personal learning opportunities. The variety of training sessions made choosing which sessions to attend a challenge. I took the opportunity to attend several grant related sessions to expand my knowledge of the grant process. The DATA Act was one of the main topics this year. The goal to standardize the format of data and reporting requirements will stream line the process for those who deal with the Federal Government.

Congratulations to our Nashville Chapter Committee Chairs and Members for the many awards our chapter received this

year. Your dedicated service continues to make the Nashville Chapter outstanding.

While returning from California, several of us were affected by the Southwest computer issue. My return flight on Friday was cancelled. I was eventually re-booked for Sunday. The variety of ways people react to stressful situations was revealed when our flight was cancelled. Some people were angry, some were resigned, and some were compassionate. The kindness of strangers was shown by the woman who loaned her cell phone to a teenager to call her mom, the man who loaned his extra battery to both of them to charge their cell phones, and the man who calmly told an angry person in line with us that we were all affected by this and we all wanted to get home. I appreciated the gate agent who remained calm and helpful throughout the three hours it took to assist those on my flight. She even stayed past her time to go home so we would be taken care of.

We all have situations where, through no fault of our own, we are confronted by upset people. It is how we react to these situations that show our professionalism. May we all rise to the challenges we face in our careers with a calm, helpful, and professional manner.

*Angela*

# SAVE THE DATE!

## 2016-2017 Luncheon Meeting Dates

September 12, 2016  
October 10, 2016  
November 7, 2016  
December 12, 2016  
January 9, 2017  
February 13, 2017  
March 13, 2017  
April 10, 2017  
May 8, 2017

## 2016-2017 CEC Meeting Dates

August 10, 2016  
September 8, 2016  
September 28, 2016  
November 3, 2016  
December 8, 2016  
January 5, 2017  
February 9, 2017  
March 9, 2017  
April 6, 2017  
May 4, 2017

## Deadlines for Newsletter Submissions 2016-2017

September 9, 2016  
October 14, 2016  
November 11, 2016  
December 15, 2016  
January 12, 2017  
February 16, 2017  
March 16, 2017  
April 14, 2017  
May 12, 2017

## 2016-2017 Audio Conference Dates

To Be Determined

## September Luncheon Speaker

### AGA National President-Elect Jim Arnette



National President-Elect Jim Arnette, CISA, CGFM

**Jim Arnette**, CISA, CGFM, is the Director of Local Government Audit for the Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury. Jim is responsible for the annual financial and compliance audits of all 95 Tennessee counties, and monitors the annual audits of more than 1,600 municipalities, non-profits, and related local government entities. The Division is also responsible for reviewing the funds administered by District Attorneys General and Judicial District Drug Task Forces. Jim assists local governments in implementing new auditing and accounting standards, and works with the Tennessee General Assembly on legislation impacting local governments.

Jim has worked with the Comptroller's Office for more than 30 years. He established County Audit's Information Technology Audit function, which is responsible for general and application control reviews in county governments across the state. He was named division director in 2007, and was named Director of the new Division of Local Government Audit in 2012.

Jim is a graduate of Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro. He is a Certified Financial Manager and a Certified Information Systems Auditor. He is an active member of the Nashville Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants (AGA). He has served as the chapter President and regional Vice-President. Jim has also been selected to the AGA National Executive Committee. He will serve as the National President-Elect for the 2016-2017 program year, National President for 2017-2018, and Past National President for 2018-2019.



# Committee News

## Community Service



### SCHOOL SUPPLIES DONATION DRIVE

Our first Community Service activity is collecting school supplies for our Pencil Partner, Alex Green Elementary School. Melvin Jones and Charlotte Gentry have already been collecting school supplies and have already made a delivery!

Bring your donations to the first lunch meeting on September 12 or you can begin dropping off donations with:

Emily Gray — 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor of the TN Tower

Tammy Fruscione — Polk Building

Angela McElrath-Prosser — 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Nashville Public Library

### SAVE THE DATE FOR HANDS ON NASHVILLE DAY 2016!!!

Mark your calendars! Hands on Nashville Day 2016 is Saturday, September 24! More information will be coming regarding what school we will be working at. If you are interested in participating, please contact Emily Gray ([Emily.gray@tn.gov](mailto:Emily.gray@tn.gov)).

## Membership

If you are not already a member of AGA or involved in one of our wonderful committee, I highly encourage you to get involved. Now there is evidence that volunteering is good for you. See the article in the most recent *Leadership Matters* below.

Volunteering is Good for Your Health

Whether you're just starting as a volunteer in AGA, or you've done so for most of your career, a [new study](#) shows it's good for your health. As the Italians say: salute!



Fellow Nashville AGA Chapter Members,

Another great year of AGA is about to begin. The committees are lining up speakers for our educational events and luncheons. Speaking of the luncheons, our Meetings and Attendance Committee received proposals from various venues in an effort to continue a low cost for our meetings. All the options presented included price increases in some cases, extreme increases. After much consideration and debate, the Chapter Executive Committee evaluated the proposals and elected to continue with the DoubleTree. The cost for each meal will increase to \$32.24, of which the chapter will subsidize \$19.24 and only pass along a \$2 increase to the membership. The luncheon cost to the member will be \$13, which matches what each member paid two years ago. With the increase, we will have our buffet option back this year. Please mark your calendars for the luncheon dates.

Also, please let us know of any food allergies when you make your reservation so we can make arrangements for an alternative menu choice.

I am excited about the new year. I hope to see each of you at the meetings.

Sincerely,

*Angela McElrath-Prosser*

AGA Nashville Chapter President

# Highlights from the National PDT Awards Ceremony



2015-16 Education Chairs Rachel Cabading and Anna Nickell accept the National Education Award from National President John Homan.



2015-16 Chapter President Penny Austin accepts the National Platinum Chapter Award as presented by National President John Homan.



2015-16 Webmaster Co-Chair Nathan Abbott accepts the National Website Award from National President John Homan.



2015-16 Chapter President Penny Austin accepts the National CGFM Award for CGFM Chair Michael Winston.



The Nashville Chapter was well represented at the National PDT this year (not pictured was David Lannom).



The National Executive Committee is recognized for their service, which includes Karen B. Hale from the Nashville Chapter.



2015-16 Newsletter Editor Karen B. Hale receives the National Newsletter Award as presented by National President John Homan.



Penny Austin, Rachel Cabading and Anna Nickell are enjoying the Awards Ceremony!



Karen B. Hale and daughter, Katie, are having fun at the Awards Ceremony!

# Congratulations and Thank you!

## Congratulations to the 2015-2016 National Award Winners!

Nathan Abbott, CISA, CFE, EA, and Dan Willis, CGFM, CPA, CISA — Website Award

Penny Austin, CPA, CGFM, CISA — Platinum Chapter Award

Gerry Boaz, CPA, CGFM, CGMA — Platinum Regional Vice President Award

Rachelle Cabading, CFE, Anna Nickell, CPA and Education Committee — Education Award

Karen B. Hale, MAOM, CGFM — Newsletter Award

Michael Winston, CGFM — CGFM Award

## Thank You for Participating at the Regional or National Level!

We would like to recognize members of the Nashville Chapter who participated at the national and regional levels of AGA for 2015-2016 and thank them for their service to this organization.

### Members Participating at the National Level

Jim Arnette, CGFM, President-Elect Designate

Gerry Boaz, CGFM, CPA, CGMA, Governance Committee

Connor Courtemanche, Bylaws and Procedures Committee

Michelle Earhart, Bylaws and Procedures Committee

Karen B. Hale, MAOM, CGFM, SVP Section IV, National Board of  
Directors, and National Executive Committee

Talia Lomax-O'dneal, CGFM, Awards Committee

Kathy Stickel, CGFM, Finance and Budget Committee

### Members Participating at the Regional Level

Chas Taplin, Regional Coordinator for Education

# News And Just The Facts

## CAREER CENTER

A **Finance Assistant Director** position was recently posted. Qualified and interested candidates should submit a cover letter and resume to the link provided at <http://www.nashvilleaga.org/jobs.html>

### OUR FINAL STANDING FOR 2015-2016 AS OF 5/31/16, IS AS FOLLOWS:

<u>Chapter Recognition Section</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Chapter Leadership, Planning & Participation	4,500	3,000	150%
Education & Professional Development	9,575	4,000	239%
Certification	4,375	4,000	109%
Communications	6,275	3,000	209%
Membership	8,275	4,000	207%
Accountability	750	2,000	38%
Community Service	6,200	2,000	310%
Awards	2,100	1,000	210%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>42,050</b>	<b>23,000</b>	<b>183%</b>

## LUNCHEON / CEC MINUTES

To read the minutes from the most recent CEC and luncheon meeting, please visit the chapter website at [www.nashvilleaga.org](http://www.nashvilleaga.org). The luncheon minutes will be presented for approval at the next business meeting scheduled for September 2016.



## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

From time to time departments forward job opportunities to the Website Committee, which are posted for members' convenience. If you are interested in new job offerings or know someone who is, go to this link for detailed information — <http://nashvilleaga.org/jobs.html>



## Editor's Corner



We truly enjoy reading articles submitted from our membership.

Please share your thoughts and ideas or interesting news with us by submitting your article to [Karen.B.Hale@cot.tn.gov](mailto:Karen.B.Hale@cot.tn.gov) no later than September 9, 2016 for the next edition of our newsletter. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks!

# 2016-2017 AGA Chapter Leadership Directory

## Officers

**President**  
Angela McElrath-Prosser  
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[Angela.Mcelrath@nashville.gov](mailto:Angela.Mcelrath@nashville.gov)

**President-Elect**  
Britt Wood  
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**Immediate Past President**  
Penny Austin, CGFM, CPA, CISA  
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**Secretary**  
Donna Jewell, CPA, CFE  
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**Treasurer**  
Eugene Hampton, II, CGFM, CPA  
(615) 225-3302  
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## One-Year Directors

**Bridget Carver**  
Membership Chair  
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**Emily Gray**  
Community Service Chair  
(615) 741-1438  
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**Debi Moss**  
Program Chair  
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**Anna Nickell, CPA**  
Education Chair  
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**Michael Winston, CGFM**  
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## Two-Year Directors

**Keevia Battle, CPA**  
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**Charlotte Gentry**  
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**Donna Nicely**  
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**Doreen Zientar, CIA**  
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## Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs

**Nathan Abbott, CISA, CFE, EA**  
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**Gerry Boaz, CGFM, CPA, CGMA**  
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## Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs

**Karen B. Hale, MAOM, CGFM**  
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**NASHVILLE  
CHAPTER**

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Visit the Nashville Chapter web-site at [www.nashvilleaga.org](http://www.nashvilleaga.org)

Visit the National website at: [www.agacgfm.org](http://www.agacgfm.org)