



VIRGINIA  
PENINSULA  
CHAPTER



VOLUME 12, NUMBER 6 February 2012

*Next Chapter Meeting:*

**February 16, 2012**

*Joint meeting with the  
Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA)  
Tidewater Chapter*

**“How to Deliver Bad News”**

**Pat N. Gorski**

*(Distinguished Toastmaster with the  
Virginia Beach Human Services Club)*

**Members – Free  
Nonmembers - \$10**

**1 CPE  
11:45 – 1:15**

Chesapeake Conference Center  
900 Greenbriar Circle  
Chesapeake, Virginia 23320

**Watch for an e-mail with a link to  
register. RSVP by February 9<sup>th</sup>.**

**On 2/16/12, IIA is hosting another 6  
CPE hours on “Communication &  
Behavioral Skills for Auditors.” The  
cost for the full 7 hours (including  
the luncheon) is \$85 for IIA members  
and \$110 for non-members.  
[Click here for full details](#)**

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**Chapter President’s Message**

*2012 is off and running. I trust that for you it has been a good start - that you’ve taken on the new year with vigor and a renewed sense of purpose. The new year always brings with it hope. Merriam Webster gives the following three definitions of hope:*

- *To cherish a desire with anticipation*
- *To desire with expectation of obtainment*
- *To expect with confidence*

*What are you hoping for during 2012 that didn’t come to fruition during 2011? Maybe for you like many others, 2011 was not a banner year, not one to be remembered fondly. Maybe you celebrated the end of 2011 instead of the dawning of 2012, or maybe for you 2011 was a champion year, one that you’d like to carbon copy for 2012.*

*Whatever the end of 2011 meant for you, the New Year brings with it a world of opportunities. A world filled with hope, filled with promise, and the possibility of fulfillment of dreams beyond our wildest expectations. So what do you desire and expect to obtain during 2012 with confidence? We all know the old saying that “opportunity knocks”, but recently I heard it said just slightly differently, that, “opportunity hides”, and it’s up to us to find it, because we find what we hope to find, and we get what we expect. What do you hope for in 2012?*

*February as we all know is black history month. This month, we celebrate the accomplishment of the pioneers of yesteryear and even some today. Those who “Had a Dream”, and did what it took to make them reality. Others who fought, and give their all so that we could fulfill our dreams. Yes, I hope for you that if 2011 was a year filled with set-backs, that at the end of 2012, you’ll look back and say, “this was the year that we came back”!*

*As always our chapter provides lots of opportunities to assist in your professional development. The chance to grow, to be a leader in your profession, to sharpen your skills, to enable you to find those hidden opportunities, in places where others fail to look, even if those opportunities sometimes hide in plain sight.*

*Our President-Elect is also assembling next year’s team. My hope is that this will be the year that you decide to step out of the shadows, to raise your hand and be counted, to say yes, count me in! Happy New Year indeed!*

*Curtis P. Joachim, CPA, MBA  
President  
AGA VA Peninsula Chapter*



# What's Happening?

This month:

- February 16, 2012, Chapter Meeting - joint with IIA (POC is Melissa Saunders at [msaunders@wittmares.com](mailto:msaunders@wittmares.com))
- February community service- Food Collection for local area Food Banks. Chapter will collect food items and money donated for each Food bank (Southside and Peninsula). Also, prepare breakfast for the families of the Ronald McDonald House.

## VA Peninsula Chapter Member Selected to be National President!

The AGA Nominating Committee has selected Mary E. Peterman, CGFM, CPA, as National President-Elect. Peterman, a member of the Virginia Peninsula Chapter and a Past National Treasurer is a vice president with Savantage Solutions, having previously held financial management leadership positions in Chesterfield County, Norfolk, Portsmouth and Northampton County, VA, as well as the Transportation Security Administration and U.S. Coast Guard. Known formerly as Mary Lechner, she participated in the development of guidelines for AGA's Citizen-Centric Reporting certificate program, currently serves on AGA's Accountability Focus Group and participates as a reviewer for both the Citizen-Centric and SEA Reports. She was actively involved this year in the development of our chapter's first Chapter-Centric Report. Her past AGA leadership positions include Chapter President, Mid-Atlantic Regional Vice President, Finance and Budget Committee, PDC Technical Committee, National Executive Committee and National Nominating Committee. Congratulations Mary!



## January Speaker Discusses Joint Base Environment

The VA Peninsula chapter kicked off the new year with its annual joint meeting with the American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC). The January meeting featured Lt Col Timothy Kodama, (USAF) Comptroller of the 633 Air Base Wing, Joint Base Langley-Eustis. He informed the crowd on "Fiscal Operations in a Joint Base Environment". The VA Peninsula chapter again joins forces with ASMC for its spring professional conference in March!



The crowd is enthralled by Lt Col Timothy Kodama's talk at the January meeting

## Virginia Peninsula Chapter 2011-2012 Calendar of Events

- March 14 & 15 – Spring PDC (joint with ASMC) in Virginia Beach
- April 19, 2012. Chapter Meeting (POC is Melissa Saunders at [msaunders@wittmares.com](mailto:msaunders@wittmares.com))
- April community service - March of Dimes Walk America – Sponsor and participate in this fundraising event. Also, Chapter will help provide manpower to register walkers and count donations after the event for deposit (contact [tia.m.godwin@uscg.mil](mailto:tia.m.godwin@uscg.mil)).
- May community service projects (contact [tia.m.godwin@uscg.mil](mailto:tia.m.godwin@uscg.mil)):
  - Equikids Therapeutic Riding program for special children. Chapter will contribute \$250 to sponsor a hole for the fundraiser and/or help sponsor a team to participate. Point of Contact will be Joe Rutecki.
  - Hampton Veterans Affairs Center - Volunteers provide many important functions throughout the Medical Center and help make patients' stay more enjoyable. Volunteers will be performing a number of services.
- July 28-August 1, 2012 – AGA National PDC, *Navigating the Winds of Change*, San Diego, CA.

**NOTE REGARDING TREASURER'S REPORT:**  
Current financial statements were not ready this month. If you have any questions regarding chapter finances, please contact Chapter Treasurer Nicole Whitaker at [nicole.e.whitaker@gmail.com](mailto:nicole.e.whitaker@gmail.com).

# Community Service

By Tia Forte Godwin, Chapter Community Service Director



## Support Local Food Banks This Month!

This month the chapter will collect food items for and donate money to food banks on both the Southside and Peninsula. Donations will be collected at the next AGA meeting, on February 16, 2012.

## Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

**March - Ronald McDonald House:** The chapter will prepare breakfast for the families of the Ronald McDonald House. The Ronald McDonald House program provides a "home-away-from-home" for families so they can stay close by their hospitalized child at little or no cost. The Ronald McDonald Houses are built on the simple idea that nothing else should matter when a family is focused on healing their child. March 3, 2012 at 8:00am (the address will be provided in the AGA newsletter as well as email event reminders).

**April - March of Dimes Walk America** – The chapter will sponsor and participate in this fundraising event, as well as provide manpower to register walkers and count donations after the event for deposit. Sunday, April 29, 2012 at the Virginia Beach oceanfront boardwalk. The walk distance is 5 miles. Registration is at 8:00 am and the race starts at: 9:00 am.

**May - Equikids Therapeutic Riding Program for Special Children** – The chapter will contribute \$250 to sponsor a hole for the fundraiser and/or help sponsor a team to participate. Point of contact will be Joe Rutecki.

**Hampton Veterans Affairs Medical Center** - Volunteers provide many important functions throughout the Medical Center and help make patients' stay more enjoyable. Volunteers will be performing a number of services.

Contact [tia.m.godwin@uscg.mil](mailto:tia.m.godwin@uscg.mil) for more information.

## ODU Team Headed to AGA's NLC in February

A team of ODU AGA student members, advised by Dr. Ziegenfuss, heads to the finals of AGA's 2012 undergraduate case challenge this month at AGA's National Leadership Conference in Washington, DC.

According to team captain Renee Nettles (who is also President of the ODU Managerial Accounting and Auditing Club), Dr. Z got her and fellow team member Aaron Wheeler interested in the challenge last year. This year, their winning formula included enlisting the help of a third member, Max Urenev, as well as the advice and counsel of Dr. Laurie Henry and Sara Crabtree (a member of the ODU graduate case challenge team. It took them several weeks of preparation to figure out what they wanted their Citizen Centric Report to look like, and then they worked daily against the clock once they got the actual case assignment.

The VA Peninsula Chapter wishes you the best in the competition finals ---although you're already winners to us!

*Team Members Max Urenev, Renee Nettles & Aaron Wheeler*



## Membership News

By Traneisha Bailey-Williams, Membership Director

### Emerging Leaders Gather to Cheer on the Monarchs!

On January 14th, chapter members joined the ODU Accounting Alumni Association for the ODU vs. Hofstra basketball game as part of an emerging leaders networking opportunity organized by Brittany Renica.

There was a reception with appetizers and drinks starting prior to tip off. Thanks to all who attended and supported this event.

### Membership Update

Welcome new member William Lawrence, of the US Coast Guard!

We are in the last months of the AGA year so we need to recruit, recruit, recruit! Set a goal of recruiting one new member in January! Talk to a colleague about your own AGA experiences, forward them the newsletter, and invite them to attend a meeting with you.

As a reminder, both AGA National and our local chapter are running membership recruitment programs with incentives for getting new members to join!

The AGA National membership campaign is called Ready, Set, Grow. The Virginia Peninsula chapter's is called AGA Fever!

Current members (excluding officers) and non-members are encouraged to participate. Here's how it works -- attend at least 3 meetings and 1 chapter-sponsored event (conference, community service event, etc.) this year for a chance to earn free membership for the 2012 – 2013 program year. The winners (up to 3) will be announced at the April monthly meeting.

If anyone has any membership suggestions or improvements on how I can better serve them, please e-mail me at [tbaileywilliams@deloitte.com](mailto:tbaileywilliams@deloitte.com)

### Chapter Recognition Update

Its midway through the chapter recognition program year and the chapter is 2,951 points from platinum level already. Category wise, the chapter has maxed out communications, membership with focus on early career and student members, and community service. With the 625 that will be earned in leadership, 650 that will be earned in education and the 1,000 that will be earned in awards--the chapter will be only 676 points from platinum that can be earned in certification and accountability. Many thanks to Marc Sangalang for all of his hard work in recording and tracking the chapter's activities.

*To be able to get your CPE certificate, be sure to sign in at chapter events. An e-mail will be sent to you when CPE certificates are ready for retrieval.*

# Member Spotlight

By Joyce A. Milton-Cuffee



## Gloria Bradshaw

### **What is your job position?**

Accountant at the USCG Finance Center, Internal Controls Branch

### **Give us a brief description of your job.**

I audit Coast Guard (CG) Accounts Payable payments to ensure they are being properly processed. I am also responsible for the Accounts Receivables portion of the Chief Financial Officer Report (CFO) sent to HQ on a monthly basis, as well as additional tasks, such as GL Quarterly Reviews and the A/P Accrual Project.

### **What do you like most about your job?**

I truly enjoy the environment. I have the opportunity to work with such a responsive and dedicated team, where challenges and tasks are always handled at a top professional level.

### **Where would you like to see yourself in five years??**

I see myself as an Accountant, continuing to expand my knowledge and opportunities by taking over new tasks and competitive challenges in these next upcoming years.

### **What are the benefits of being in a professional association?**

Being a part of a professional organization provides both personal and professional benefits. I am proud of being a part of a professional organization and meeting individuals with different backgrounds and personal working experiences that encourage growth and new ideas.

### **What is your most memorable AGA experience?**

Last year's AGA's Mid Atlantic Fall Conference in Williamsburg, VA. The speeches given by members and guests, and the abundance of networking opportunities made it a very memorable experience.

### **Anything else you'd like to share about yourself?**

I was raised overseas in Naples, Italy for 20 years and transferred to ODU. I am bilingual, and my favorite soda is Coca Cola Classic.

Remember to join AGA on LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter!

## Leadership Positions Available on National Boards and Committees

AGA is seeking candidates interested in filling vacancies on national boards and committees. Serving as a board or committee member might just be the most important contribution you will make to your own career and the profession.

If you are an AGA member in good standing, able to serve a full term of office, and can participate in board and committee conference call meetings, you are qualified to serve. [Specific qualifications for each committee are listed here.](#)

Learn more about the activities our boards and committees perform by [visiting the AGA website.](#) Contact [Louise Kapelewski](#) at 800.AGA.7211, ext. 321 for more information. Please fill out the [online sign-up form](#) by March 30.

## Apply for 2012 National Academic Scholarships

Are you or a family member pursuing undergraduate or graduate studies in disciplines such as accounting, auditing, budgeting, economics, finance, information technology, public administration, etc.? If so, consider applying for an AGA National Academic Scholarship today!

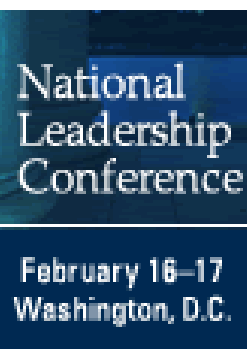
The **deadline for receipt of applications is Friday, March 30, 2012.** Apply now and take full advantage of your AGA membership.

[Download a copy of the application](#), or contact [Louise Kapelewski](#).

Mark your calendar for this upcoming AGA Audio Conference: February 8: [The New Stewardship Imperative](#)

### UPCOMING NATIONAL CONFERENCES

*(click icons for more info)*



## Certification News

By Steve Reagan, CGFM Director

Congratulations to all the chapter members who earned their CGFM in 2011!

Mr. William H. Renica, III, CGFM	Jul-11
Mrs. Karen Colombo, CGFM	Mar-11
Mrs. Tanya Renica, CGFM	Mar-11
Mr. August T. Martin, CGFM	Mar-11
Mrs. Tara A. Lambert, CGFM	Apr-11
Mr. John H. Sanderlin, Jr., CGFM, CPA, CIA	Apr-11
Ms. Ciara L. Hunter, CGFM	Apr-11
Ms. Melanie Hose, CGFM	May-11
Mrs. Wendy C. Watson, CGFM	May-11

We are aware of several others who are in the process of completing the CGFM certification and have passed either one or two of the three exams. Congratulations on your success to date and keep up the hard work. Hopefully you can be one of our first "NEW CGFMs" for 2012.

Anyone interested in forming a study group should contact me via e-mail at [sreagan01@verizon.net](mailto:sreagan01@verizon.net). Please provide contact information and specify which exam you are interested in studying for (remember, it only takes two to make a group).

The following excerpts are highlights from the AGA website (<http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/cgfmdefault.aspx>). Please go to the website for additional details and specifics on these topics regarding the CGFM.

### CGFM Annual Renewal Requirement

All active CGFMs must renew their certification annually. Invoices will be sent to all active CGFMs. Annual CGFM renewal payments are due by March 31.

### How to Maintain Your CGFM Certification

All CGFMs must adhere to the AGA's Code of Ethics. In addition, to continue using the CGFM designation after their name, CGFMs must be in an active status.

### Active status:

To maintain the CGFM certification in an active status, CGFMs are required to pay the CGFM renewal fee by the due date every year, complete at least 80 hours of continuing professional education (CPE) every two years in government financial management topics or related technical subjects (within the designated two-year cycle), and maintain detailed information on CPE hours completed.

# Education The Spring PDC is coming -- *Turning Hindsight Into Foresight*

Planning is in full-swing for our Joint Spring Professional Development Conference (PDC) with the American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC). This year's venue is the Hilton at the VA Beach Oceanfront. Mark your calendars early – the dates are **March 14 & 15**. Our conference planning committee is working hard to ensure that it's one of the best conferences ever.

Watch your e-mail for more details as they become available, including when on-line registration opens!

*We all know the old saying that “opportunity knocks”, but recently I heard it said just slightly differently, that, “opportunity hides”, and it's up to us to find it, because we find what we hope to find, and we get what we expect.*



*Remember... The chance to grow, to be a leader in your profession, to sharpen your skills, to enable you to find those hidden opportunities, in places where others fail to look, even if those opportunities sometimes hide in plain sight.*  
- Chapter President Curtis Joachim

## It Takes a Team of Leaders to Make a Region



## A REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE

**Mark A. Morehouse, MBA, CGFM**  
Regional Vice President-Elect for the Mid-Atlantic Region

What is leadership and what can we do about it? Leaders normally require followers and followers normally require leaders. Leaders are not happy with the norm and have an agenda that serves personal interests as well as those he or she serves. The term 'leadership' implies a much bigger picture as it can employ a whole group of people in leadership positions. This group of people comes together for a common goal or purpose. Everyone in the group has a role and/or responsibility and no one person is more important than any other.

The same could be said for a region. A region is comprised of many individuals in various capacities within chapters and regional leadership. Everyone is equal and everyone is important. We are lucky to be part of the finest region within all of AGA. Our nine chapters within five states contain members who desire the best and obtain better because self-improvement, leadership development and community service are a driving force to maintain active membership within AGA.

**BREAKING REGIONAL NEWS:** *The Nominating Committee selected Norman L. Adkins, CGFM, PMP, of the North Carolina Triangle Chapter to be the South Atlantic Region (our new regional name next year) RVP-elect. Adkins's term will follow our own Mark Morehouse's.*

### Mid-Atlantic Regional Team

**Regional Vice President**  
Denise Wu (Baltimore Chapter)

**Regional Vice President-Elect**  
Mark Morehouse (VA Peninsula Chapter)

**Certification Regional Coordinator**  
Alfred B. Washington, CGFM (Richmond Chapter)

**Chapter Dev & Assistance Regional Coordinator**  
Kelly Stefanko (VA Peninsula chapter)

**Community Svc Regional Coordinator**  
Dellareese Morton-Smith (Baltimore Chapter)

**Early Careers Regional Coordinator**  
Rashad A. Holloway (Baltimore Chapter)

*Want to join our team? The region is always looking for new leaders. Please contact Mid-Atlantic RVP Denise Wu at [denise.wu@cliftoncpa.com](mailto:denise.wu@cliftoncpa.com) or RVP-elect Mark Morehouse at [mark.morehouse@navy.mil](mailto:mark.morehouse@navy.mil) to find out how you can get involved in our region's leadership.*



VIRGINIA  
PENINSULA  
CHAPTER

# The Virginia Peninsula Chapter Board of Directors 2011-2012

## Chapter Officers:

### **President**

Curtis P. Joachim, CPA, MBA  
The Joachim Group CPAs &  
Consultants, LLC  
[cjoachim@thejoachimgroupcpas.com](mailto:cjoachim@thejoachimgroupcpas.com)

### **President-Elect**

Ellen Silvela  
Deloitte and Touche LLP  
[esilvela@deloitte.com](mailto:esilvela@deloitte.com)

### **Past President**

Brad Smith  
City of Norfolk  
[Brad.Smith@norfolk.gov](mailto:Brad.Smith@norfolk.gov)

### **Treasurer**

Nicole Whitaker  
[Nicole.E.Whitaker@gmail.com](mailto:Nicole.E.Whitaker@gmail.com)

### **Secretary**

Valerie Ward  
US Joint Forces Command  
[valerie.ward@jfc.com.mil](mailto:valerie.ward@jfc.com.mil)

### **Emerging Leaders**

Brittany Renica  
[brittany.renica@gmail.com](mailto:brittany.renica@gmail.com)

## Chapter Directors:

### **By-Laws**

Jocelyn Leyeza  
USCG Finance Center  
[jocelyn.j.leyeza@uscg.mil](mailto:jocelyn.j.leyeza@uscg.mil)

### **Education**

J. David Sweeney, PPM  
Booz Allen Hamilton  
[Sweeney\\_J\\_David@bah.com](mailto:Sweeney_J_David@bah.com)

### **Meetings/Publicity**

Melissa A. Saunders, CPA  
Witt Mares  
[msaunders@wittmares.com](mailto:msaunders@wittmares.com)

### **Research, Early Careers and Academic Affairs**

Doug Ziegenfuss, CPA, CMA,  
CIA, CFE, CGFM, CCSA, CISA  
Old Dominion University  
[dziegenf@odu.edu](mailto:dziegenf@odu.edu)

### **Awards**

Marc Sangalang  
USCG Finance Center  
[Marcelito.Y.Sangalang@uscg.mil](mailto:Marcelito.Y.Sangalang@uscg.mil)

### **Newsletter**

Kelly Stefanko, CPA, CGFM  
National Science Foundation  
[kstefanko@hotmail.com](mailto:kstefanko@hotmail.com)

### **Community Service**

Tia F. Godwin  
Deloitte and Touche LLP  
[tfortegodwin@deloitte.com](mailto:tfortegodwin@deloitte.com)

## **Membership**

Traneisha Bailey-Williams  
Deloitte Consulting  
[tbaileywilliams@deloitte.com](mailto:tbaileywilliams@deloitte.com)

## **Professional Certifications**

Steve Reagan  
USCG Finance Center  
[stephen.d.reagan@uscg.mil](mailto:stephen.d.reagan@uscg.mil)

## **Webmaster**

Herbert C. Griffin, IV  
US Coast Guard  
[Herbert.C.Griffin@uscg.mil](mailto:Herbert.C.Griffin@uscg.mil)

## **Accountability**

Helen Brooks  
USCG Finance Center  
[Helen.M.Brooks@uscg.mil](mailto:Helen.M.Brooks@uscg.mil)

## **Directors at Large:**

Cecelia Smith  
NASA  
[cecelia.smith-1@nasa.gov](mailto:cecelia.smith-1@nasa.gov)

Mark Morehouse, CGFM  
Military Sealift Command  
[mark.morehouse@navy.mil](mailto:mark.morehouse@navy.mil)

## **Regional Vice President- Mid Atlantic Region**

Denise Wu  
[denise.wu@cliftoncpa.com](mailto:denise.wu@cliftoncpa.com)



Honorable  
Mention

*Have member news or pictures to share via the newsletter? Send to [kstefanko@hotmail.com](mailto:kstefanko@hotmail.com)*

Visit the Virginia Peninsula Chapter on the web at [www.agavapen.org](http://www.agavapen.org) or  
AGA National at [www.agacgfm.org](http://www.agacgfm.org)

Mailing us something? AGA Virginia Peninsula Chapter  
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