

\$\$ MONEY TALK \$\$

The Alabama Journal of Government Finance



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FROM THE PRESIDENT...

I hope everyone is having a great summer! If yours is like ours it is passing way too fast and is very busy.

In June, I had the pleasure of attending the 104th Annual GFOA Conference in Atlanta. It was the first national GFOA conference I have attended and it was huge. The theme of this year's conference was "The Finance Officer's Role In Doing More With Less." There were a variety of sessions on budgeting and financial planning, economic development, technology, accounting and auditing, and debt management. I enjoyed seeing and visiting with GFOAA members that also attended. With such a large group, it was nice to see familiar faces.

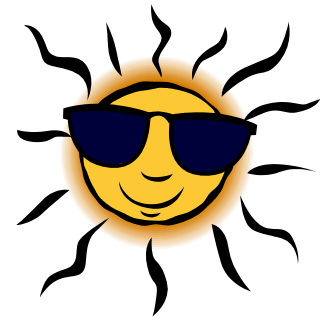
The GFOAA Summer Conference is fast approaching. It will be held August 18-20, 2010, at Lake Guntersville State Park in Guntersville, Alabama. Charla Doucet has done a great job of putting together a good line up of speakers. We will all miss having the conference in Orange Beach and want you to know that much thought went into the decision to change the location of the conference. With not knowing what the conditions would be at the beach in August, we had to make the decision to change locations while there was availability at a desirable venue. I hope you are excited about visiting beautiful Lake Guntersville State Park. Our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Orange Beach and Gulf Shores and we look for-

ward to having many more conferences there in the future.

The Annual CGAT Conference was held in Montgomery in June and had record attendance. There is more about this conference in this newsletter. Tracy Croom is to be commended for her dedication to CGAT and for the success of this program. Please take advantage of it when you have the opportunity.

I look forward to seeing you at Lake Guntersville in August.

Charles Clack



CGAT ENTERS 7TH PROGRAM YEAR PLEASE INVITE SOMEONE TO JOIN US!

Since its beginning in 2004, the GFOAA sponsored Certified Government Accounting Technicians (CGAT) Program instructors have taught and/or provided refresher courses to over 900 participants. Our participants not only come from the five largest cities in Alabama, but the word has spread and we have trained clerks from over 30 other small rural towns, school systems, county governments, water authorities, and clerks from surrounding states (yes, states such as Mississippi and Georgia). We often hear that the CGAT classes provide excellent and affordable training for clerks with all types of backgrounds and education levels. In addition, our two core curriculum classes (General Ledger and Fund Accounting) now qualify for CPE credit approved by the Alabama State Board of Public Accountancy, as well as, the annual conference for CGAT certified technicians.

The GFOAA 6th Annual CGAT Continuing Education Conference was held on June 24th and June 25th in Montgomery at the Hampton Inn-East Chase. This year, participants attended sessions on: "Alabama Bankruptcies" taught by Dr. Keren Deal, AUM Professor and GFOAA member; "Importance of Inclusion" taught by Attorney Graham Sisson, Alabama Office on Disability; "The Art of Dressing for Success" taught by Ms. Megan Pigott, Ann Taylor Store Manager; "Crime Statistics Update" taught by Assistant Attorney Thomas Govan, Office of the Attorney General; "Mapping Out Priorities" taught by Sharlene Smith, AUM ATI Outreach; "Fraud and Its Detection" taught by Alton Sizemore, Forensic/Strategic Solutions, PC; and Steve McAliley and Janice Webb presented updates from the Alabama State Department of Education. The conference provided the participants with 10 CGAT and ASBPA approved CPE hours. This year's conference was very informative for the participants and featured some great speakers.

As you can see, GFOAA offers lots of training opportunities for your staff members in all areas of governmental accounting. Please continue to help us by encouraging your staff's participation in the exciting CGAT training program. To date, we have 178 CGAT certificate holders. The Accounts Payable CGAT class will be held on Thursday, September 2nd at the University of Alabama Bryant Conference Center in Tuscaloosa to be taught by Penny Smith, Deputy Finance Director/Deputy Treasurer for the City of Auburn. Her teachings will concentrate on techniques used to record and generate payments to specific companies or individuals for products or services that have been purchased on credit by your entity. To learn more about GFOAA's CGAT program please visit our website at www.gfoaa.org.



UPCOMING EVENTS

CGAT Classes



September 2, 2010—Accounts Payable
 October 28, 2010—Accounts Receivable
 January 13, 2011—Payroll

All classes to be held at the University of Alabama Bryant Conference Center Tuscaloosa, Alabama from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Registration fee \$150.00
 (Includes Lunch)

Registration forms available at www.gfoaa.org or by email to tcroom@tuscaloosa.com

GFOAA Quarterly Board Meeting

Guntersville State Park Lodge
 1155 Lodge Drive
 August 18, 2010
 Guntersville, AL 35976
 9:00 a.m.

GFOAA Summer Conference

August 18–20, 2010
 Lake Guntersville State Park Lodge
 1155 Lodge Drive
 Guntersville, AL 35976

Click [here](#) for registration forms and information.

23rd Annual Government Accounting and Auditing Forum

December 1–2, 2010
 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. 16 hours CPE
 Birmingham Marriot Hotel
 3590 Grandview Parkway
 Birmingham, AL 35243
 Details TBA.

GFOAA Quarterly Board Meeting

March 2011
 The Wynfrey Hotel
 1000 Riverchase Galleria
 Birmingham, AL 35244
 Details TBA.

GFOAA 27th Annual Conference

March 2011
 The Wynfrey Hotel
 1000 Riverchase Galleria
 Birmingham, AL 35244
 Details TBA.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

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COMMITTEE FUNCTIONS

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee shall promote and encourage membership in GFOAA and is responsible for the annual membership directory.

Government Relations Committee

The Government Relations Committee shall monitor and report on legislative action affecting governmental finance and promote intergovernmental cooperation.

Education Committee

The Education Committee shall establish, organize and promote educational programs within the membership.

Scholarship, Awards and Service Committee

The Scholarship, Awards and Service Committee is responsible for the administration of the scholarship and awards program. The committee is also responsible for implementing and monitoring service projects as assigned.

Strategic Planning Committee

The Strategic Planning Committee is responsible for preparing the long-range plans to meet the organization's goals and objectives. The committee is also responsible for communicating the plan to each committee. The committee will serve as the monitoring entity for the committee projects associated with the strategic plan.

**Government
Finance Officers
Association of
Alabama**

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The Alabama Journal of Government Finance

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Mission Statement

The mission of the Government Finance Officers Association of Alabama is to provide a professional association for government finance personnel dedicated to enabling its members to provide quality professional service to their constituents with the highest level of integrity.