

# \$\$ MONEY TALK \$\$

The Alabama Journal of Government Finance



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## FROM THE PRESIDENT...

**Gratitude, like faith, is a muscle. The more you use it, the stronger it grows, and the more power you have to use it on your behalf. If you do not practice gratefulness, its benefaction will go unnoticed, and your capacity to draw on its gifts will be diminished. To be grateful is to find blessings in everything. This is the most powerful attitude to adopt, for there are blessings in everything.**

**Alan Cohen**

This is the last message I will write to you as president of GFOAA. I am honored and thankful to have served in this capacity. The year has really gone by quickly. Like the quote above says "there are blessings in everything." Melinda and I truly feel blessed to have made so many lasting friendships throughout the years we have been involved with GFOAA and look forward to the conferences when we will get to see all of you again. It is similar to a family reunion. GFOAA is a great organization and I know we will all benefit from many more successful years.

As I write this, Governor Robert Bentley has completed the second week of his term as Governor of Alabama. Along with a change in administration comes much change and work for those of us in state government. The new administration

must "hit the ground running" and to be able to do that effectively and efficiently, they must have information from state agencies to help them make decisions that affect everyone. Of course, the General Fund and the Special Education Budgets are a top priority since revenues are still down. Hopefully, the economy will continue to show signs of growth and the state and local budgets will not be as tight as they have been.

Speaking of budgets, if you have training dollars available this year, you will not find a better value than a GFOAA conference. The 27th GFOAA Annual Conference will be held February 16–18, 2011 at the Wynfrey Hotel in Birmingham. The Annual GFOAA Business Meeting will also be held during the conference. There is more information in the "Upcoming Events" section of this newsletter. I hope to see you there.

As I close, I would like to congratulate the Auburn Tigers on being the 2010 National Champions. It really is great to have back to back National Champions and Heisman Trophy winners from the State of Alabama!

I look forward to seeing all of you soon!

*Charles Clack*

## 27TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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*Don't miss the 27th GFOAA Annual Conference!*



*The Wynfrey Hotel  
Hoover, Alabama  
February 16–18, 2011*

[\*Click here for conference information.\*](#)

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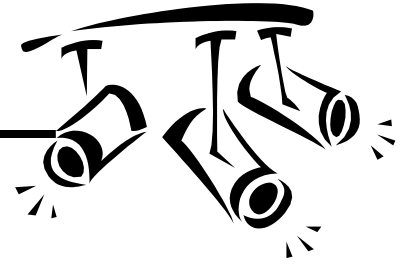
### *Did you know...*

Attendance at the GFOAA Annual Conferences includes your annual membership dues? Several years ago GFOAA decided to include the annual membership dues in the conference registration fee for the Annual Conference. This only applies to the Annual Conference and not the Summer Conference. So don't miss out—come to the Annual Conference and keep your GFOAA membership current!

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*Success without honor is an unseasoned dish; it will satisfy your hunger, but it won't taste good. ~Joe Paterno*

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT MELVIN TURNER, III



**Melvin Turner, III** currently serves as the Finance Director for the City of Vestavia Hills and has served in the aforementioned capacity since October of 2003. Melvin formerly served as the City Clerk and Treasurer for the City of Fairfield from 1993 to 2003 and as Comptroller for the Alabama State Fair Authority from 1984 to 1993.

**Melvin** is a native of Birmingham where he graduated from George Washington Carver High School with honors. He received an “Alabama Scholar” award from the University of Alabama in Birmingham in 1979. He earned an athletic scholarship from Mississippi State University (MSU) where he was a member of the football (defensive back) and track (hurdler) teams, lettering in both sports. As a freshman at MSU, Melvin set the 55 meters indoor hurdling record.

**He** graduated from MSU in four years receiving a Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration. Melvin also holds a Bachelor degree in Theology from Christian Life School of Theology and a Masters degree in Public Management from Troy University.

**Melvin** has been a member of GFOAA in excess of ten years and has served as treasurer for 3 terms, 2006-2007, 2007-2008 and 2010-2011. Melvin is married to Connita. They have been married sixteen years and have no children. He is an ordained Minister on staff at Freewill Church of God in Christ - Overton, Alabama.



*Melvin Turner, III,  
Finance Director,  
City of Vestavia  
Hills.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### CGAT Classes

February 3, 2011— Accounts Receivable/Billing

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](http://www.gfoaa.org) or by email to  
[tcroom@tuscaloosa.com](mailto:tcroom@tuscaloosa.com)




### GFOAA Quarterly Board Meeting

February 16, 2011  
The Wynfrey Hotel  
1000 Riverchase Galleria  
Birmingham, AL 35244  
Details TBA.

### GFOAA 27th Annual Conference


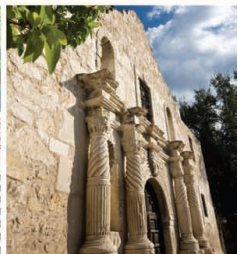
February 16–18, 2011  
The Wynfrey Hotel  
1000 Riverchase Galleria  
Birmingham, AL 35244  
Conference Details TBA.  
For hotel reservation information, see the Events  
Schedule at [www.gfoaa.org](http://www.gfoaa.org).







Government Finance Officers Association

## 105th Annual Conference

HENRY B. GONZALEZ CONVENTION CENTER • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS • MAY 22 – 25, 2011

### Navigating the New Normal in Government Finance

21 CPE CREDITS

CLICK ANYWHERE ON THIS NOTICE  
FOR CONFERENCE INFORMATION

### GFOAA Summer Conference

August 17–19, 2011  
Hampton Inn & Suites  
Orange Beach, AL  
Details TBA.

QUARTERLY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
 LAKE GUNTERSVILLE STATE PARK LODGE  
 GUNTERSVILLE, ALABAMA  
 AUGUST 1, 2010

The Quarterly Board of Directors meeting was held August 1, 2010 in Guntersville, Alabama. President Charles Clack called the meeting to order.

Minutes of the April 28, 2010 board meeting held at The Frank M. Johnson, Jr. Federal Building and United States Courthouse in Montgomery, Alabama were approved.

#### Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was not available at the time of the meeting.

#### Public Information

Members were urged to promote the CGAT conference. Charles indicated that he is always looking for nominations for the Member Spotlight in the newsletter.

#### Certification Board

Sarah Williams provided the report that we have 44 approved for the current year. There are 2 non-responses and 1 inactive CGFO certifications that were not renewed. There was discussion of deactivation of the non-responses and the requirements for maintaining certification and deactivation.

#### Education

Charles Clack complimented Charla Doucet on moving the conference from Orange Beach to Lake Guntersville successfully and explained that the move was made due to uncertainty regarding the oil spill.

#### Membership

Jamie Moyers will make the board aware of new members and report any interest they have in serv-

ing on a committee. Charles Clack explained that fees for the annual conference pay dues for the year while fees for the summer conference do not. We discussed the registration fee for each conference. Jamie cross checks the membership roll against registrations for the annual conference and invoices those who miss the conference. Sarah Williams suggested an article in the newsletter.

#### Scholarships

Charles Clack asked for submissions for awards. There were four applications for scholarships that met qualifications. The deadline for submission has passed.

#### 2010 Summer Conference

There were 60 registrants and anticipate 75 guests at the reception including sponsors and guests of attendees. The Board of Public Accountancy approved 16.5 hours of CPE for the conference.

#### 2011 Annual Conference

Melinda Lopez is in charge of the conference. The conference will be at the Winfrey Hotel from February 16-18, 2011. Melinda distributed fliers for the conference and is considering the McWayne Center for an evening event.

#### 2011 Summer Conference

Russell Raney is in charge of planning next year's Summer Conference. The conference will be held at the Hampton Inn & Suites from August 17-19, 2011. The hotel is scheduled to open in spring 2011.

Contact Charles Clack or the committee chairs for full copies of minutes or committee reports.

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

APRIL 1, 2010—MARCH 31, 2011

## **President:**

Charles Clack, CGFO  
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## **First Vice President:**

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Russell Raney  
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## **Secretary:**

Rod Morgan  
Office: 334-358-3224  
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## **Treasurer:**

Melvin Turner  
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[treasurer@ci.vestaviahills.al.us](mailto:treasurer@ci.vestaviahills.al.us)

## **Directors:**

Sheila Patterson  
Office: 205-244-4073  
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Derek Reeves  
Office: 205-248-5175  
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## **Associate Director**

Mike Diehl  
Office: 850-435-1286  
[Mike.Diehl@Suntrust.com](mailto:Mike.Diehl@Suntrust.com)

## **Immediate Past President**

Clara Myers  
Office: 251-981-6801  
[cmyers@cityoforangebeach.com](mailto:cmyers@cityoforangebeach.com)

## **Administrative Assistant**

Jamie Moyers  
Office: 334-312-2770  
[mail.gfoaa@yahoo.com](mailto:mail.gfoaa@yahoo.com)

## **Public Information Officer**

Charles Clack  
Office: 334-353-8070  
[Charles.clack@revenue.alabama.gov](mailto:Charles.clack@revenue.alabama.gov)

## GFOAA Office Administration

Please notify Jamie Moyers to change your address, or other pertinent information, at the following address:

P. O. Box 240574  
Montgomery, AL 36124-0574  
Phone: 334-312-2770 or  
Email: [mail.gfoaa@yahoo.com](mailto:mail.gfoaa@yahoo.com)

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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### Certification Board

Sarah Williams, CGFO

Office: 334-954-3907

[Sarah\\_williams@almb.uscourts.gov](mailto:Sarah_williams@almb.uscourts.gov)

### Education

Charles Clack, CGFO

Office: 334-353-8070

[Charles.clack@revenue.alabama.gov](mailto:Charles.clack@revenue.alabama.gov)

### Governmental Relations

Charla Doucet

Office: 334-242-7305

[Cdoucet@ago.state.al.us](mailto:Cdoucet@ago.state.al.us)

### Membership

Charla Doucet

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[Cdoucet@ago.state.al.us](mailto:Cdoucet@ago.state.al.us)

### Scholarships & Service

Clara Myers

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[cmyers@cityoforangebeach.com](mailto:cmyers@cityoforangebeach.com)

## COMMITTEE FUNCTIONS

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### 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.

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**Government  
Finance Officers  
Association of  
Alabama**

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# **\$\$ MONEY TALK \$\$**

*The Alabama Journal of Government Finance*

*Editor: Charles W. Clack*

*57 Blue Pine Lane*

*Wetumpka, Alabama 36093*

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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.