



# \$\$ Money Talk \$\$

The Alabama Journal of Government Finance

Government Finance Officers Association of Alabama

Volume VI

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## From the President...

Busy, busy, busy. That's the way I feel right now. I know many of you have just been through your busy season with budget preparation and fiscal year-end and we are right in the middle of it now. However, we don't need to forget about upcoming events.

The Governmental Accounting & Auditing Forum is December 6 and 7 at the Birmingham Marriott Hotel. The GFOAA 23rd Annual Conference will be held February 28 through March 2 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in

Montgomery. That's a total of 32 CPE hours if you take advantage of both of these outstanding conferences. These two educational opportunities are a couple of examples of the value our organization has for you and me. However, we are always reviewing the status of GFOAA and looking for ways to offer more value to each of us as government finance professionals. With that thought in mind, if you have any suggestions that could make GFOAA more valuable to you, email me at [flowersbi@dot.state.al.us](mailto:flowersbi@dot.state.al.us) or send your suggestions

to me at 1409 Coliseum Boulevard, Montgomery, AL 36110. I look forward to seeing you in Birmingham.

*Bill A. Flowers*

### Inside this issue:

Quarterly Board meeting minutes recap	2
CGAT Update	3
Board of Directors and Officers	4
Committee Chairpersons	5
Upcoming Events	5

## GFOAA Cookbook

GFOAA is currently working on a cookbook and your favorite recipes are needed to make it a success.

Please send your recipes to Jim Schiefelbein at [jschiefelbein@bankofny.com](mailto:jschiefelbein@bankofny.com)



**Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting  
Hilton Garden Inn—Orange Beach, Alabama  
June 4, 2006**

The GFOAA Board of Directors meeting was held June 4, 2006 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Orange Beach.

Business conducted included approval of the minutes of February 26, 2006 Board meeting.

The treasurer's report was presented by Danny Panos. The report was approved as presented (contact Danny Panos, Treasurer, at 205-332-6112 or [danny.panos@homewoodal.org](mailto:danny.panos@homewoodal.org) for copies.)

**Education Committee** – Melinda Clack, Chair  
Dana Foster-Allen presented graphs and charts depicting information from the 2005 Summer Conference evaluations. She suggested using standard evaluation forms for all conferences. Responsibility for designing the form was assigned to the education committee.

**Certification Committee** – Judy Kamnikar, Chair  
Sarah Williams reminded everyone that the next CGAT training session would be held June 6, 2006 at the Bryan Conference Center on the University of Alabama campus.

**Governmental Relations** – Gene Stabler, Chair  
Sarah Williams reported that bills in the legislature are being tracked.

**Membership** – Penny Smith, Chair  
Clara Myers reported that she did a search of City Clerks trying to locate cities which are not participating in GFOAA. The need to update the new member packet was discussed.

Further business.....

**2006 Summer Conference:**

Penny Smith reported that 111 attendees were expected for the conference.

**2007 Annual Conference:**

Bill Flowers reported that the conference is scheduled for February 28th—March 2nd at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Montgomery.

**Site Visit & Quarterly Board Meeting:**

Sarah Williams announced that the site visit has been scheduled for 9:30am on August 11, 2006, at the Hyundai Plant in Montgomery. The location of the Board meeting had not been finalized.

**New Business:**

It was suggested that the emeritus membership program needs to be formalized and certificates presented to the emeritus members.

Bill Flowers noted that the organizational structure reads that the 2nd Vice President is the chairperson of the Membership Committee. To provide continuity on the committee, he asked Penny Smith to compose a motion for changing the Association Bylaws to read the 1st Vice President will remain on the membership committee. In addition, he also asked that the Bylaws be amended to appoint the current Association Administrative Assistant to the membership committee.

**Please Note:** For those individuals requesting complete minutes or committee reports, please contact Bill Flowers at 334-242-6362 or [flow-ersbi@dot.state.al.us](mailto:flow-ersbi@dot.state.al.us) or the committee chairs.

## CGAT Update

Since our last newsletter many exciting CGAT events have taken place....

On April 5<sup>th</sup>, GFOAA kicked off the second year of the Certified Governmental Accounting Technician Program with the General Ledger course taught by Dr. Edward Kamnikar at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. The class was well attended with 31 students familiarizing themselves with the "study of ledgers". On June 7<sup>th</sup>, many of the students returned to Tuscaloosa to further familiarize themselves with the process of recording financial information into funds at the Fund Accounting course taught by Dr. Judith Kamnikar. These required core courses have proven to be very informative for the participants. Class participants are required to sit for a multiple-choice exam at the end of each session. These students are working very hard and taking lots of notes.

We are also very proud to announce our 2006-2007 graduates to date. They are Carla Cowling, City of Demopolis; Tracy Hudson, City of Tuscaloosa; Marie Livingston, Cullman County Commission; Stephanie Simon, City of Decatur; Ginger Taylor, Cullman County Commission; Diane Wyatt, City of Tuscaloosa; Rhonda Gehman, City of Hoover; Jada Hosey, City of Hoover; Vanessa Bradstreet, City of Hoover;

Sonya Mastin, Huntsville City Board of Education and Jennifer McCafferty, Pickens County Medical Center.

The GFOAA 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual CGAT Continuing Education Conference was held on June 22<sup>nd</sup> and June 23<sup>rd</sup> in Montgomery at the Holiday Inn Express. Participants attended the following classes: State of Alabama Ethic Guidelines, *Hugh Evans, Alabama Ethics Commission*; Making the Most Of An Audit With Good Internal Controls, *Billy Cox, Aldridge Borden & Company*; Developing a "Paperless" Office, *Brody Wallace, Delta Data, Inc.*; State of Alabama Destruction Guidelines, *Tom Turley, AL Department of Archives and History*; Are Purchasing Cards Safe?, *Harry Bannister, Columbus Bank and Trust*; How to Deal Withirate Customers, *Janie Brown, Regions Bank*; Dress For Success, *Leska, Graves, Parisians*; Round Table Discussions, *Tracy Croom, City of Tuscaloosa; Discussion Leader*. The conference provided the participants with 12 CPE units and was be very informative for the participants. A special thank you goes to GFOAA past president Sarah Williams for all of her hard work. Also thanks to Edward Kamnikar, Judy Kamnikar and Bill Flowers for your assistance to make this conference a great success.

At this time, we have 68

CGAT Certificate holders; however, our class enrollment has begun to drop. We need **your help** to keep this program alive. Please encourage your co-workers to enroll in the next two course offerings. Without participation, we can not afford to continue the class offerings.

**The Accounts Payable CGAT class will be held on November 8<sup>th</sup> at the University of Alabama Bryant Conference Center in Tuscaloosa to be taught by Andrea Jackson, Director of Finance for the City of Auburn.** Her teachings will concentrate on techniques used to record and generate payment to specific companies or individuals for products or services that have been purchased on credit by your entity. The Payroll/HR class will be held on January 17, 2007. This class allows participants to get first hand knowledge on Payroll accounting, payroll laws, and human resource policies.

**"At this time  
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CGAT  
Certificate  
Holders"**



Participants enjoy visiting during the GFOAA 2nd Annual Continuing Education Conference.

## Board of Directors and Officers

April 1—March 31, 2007

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[jschiefelbein@bankofny.com](mailto:jschiefelbein@bankofny.com)**Upcoming Events****CGAT Classes****November 8, 2006****Accounts Payable Class**University of Alabama  
Bryant Conference Center  
Tuscaloosa, AlabamaRegistration fee \$125.00  
(Includes Lunch)**January 17, 2007****Payroll/HR Class**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****December 6, 2006****Birmingham, Alabama****5:30pm - 7:30 pm****Details TBA****Government Accounting & Auditing Forum****December 6 - 7, 2006**  
**Birmingham Marriott Hotel****Registration Fee**  
**\$195.00 (Members)**  
**\$225.00 (Non-members)****Hotel Reservations**  
**205-968-3775****GFOAA 23rd Annual Conference****February 28 - March 2, 2007****Embassy Suites Hotel**  
**Montgomery, Alabama****Hotel Reservations**  
**334-269-5055**

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*The Alabama Journal of Government Finance*

**Editor: Charles W. Clack**

We're on the web!  
[www.gfoaa.org](http://www.gfoaa.org)



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