



\$\$ Money Talk \$\$

The Alabama Journal of Government Finance

Volume II

Fall

Edition #3

Government Finance Officers Association of Alabama

From the President.....



Fall has arrived. Closing out the fiscal year and starting up the new fiscal year doesn't give government financial managers much time to reflect on the significance of that transition. Every ending, however, provides an opportunity to be reflective, to celebrate the successes (no matter how small or insignificant) and to appreciate our colleagues for their contributions to the effort, their sense of humor, and even for those "lessons" they can present us that we don't always want. More importantly, it should be a time of commitment to renew the effort and continue the "good work". September 2002 most likely caused some type of emotional response in all Americans. My hope is that we take those feelings and work toward making it a better world regardless of what experience prompts the retrospection.

I have just received the Certificate Winners Report from the national office of GFOA identifying the following Alabama governments being awarded the Certificate for Excellence in Financial Reporting for their Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports with fiscal years ended in 2001.

Excellence in Financial Reporting

Alabama Retirement Systems
Alabama State Port Authority
City of Decatur
City of Hoover
City of Huntsville
City of Montgomery
City of Tuscaloosa

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Congratulations recipients! Everyone in the organization appreciates your good work and the credibility that you bring to the governmental financial management profession.

Without “bias”, I would say that the Summer Conference was a success - excellent speakers, great attendees and of course corporate sponsors who partner with us to provide the best possible environment for continuing education programs. It is no secret that without the corporate support, we would not be able to maintain the excellent level of CPE programs. On behalf of GFOAA, I extend our appreciation to the summer conference sponsors:

Bank of New York Trust Company
Compass Bank
Government e-Management Solutions, Inc.
(GEMS)
HTE, Inc.
J P Morgan
MUNIS Software
Nationwide Retirement Solutions
Regions Bank
Sterne, Agee & Leach, Inc.
VALIC Retirement Services Company
Wilson Price Barranto Blankenship & Billingsley, PC

We appreciate the time, friendship, and expertise that our corporate sponsors willingly share with us. I hope that members will give these organizations the opportunity to be of service to your individual governments.

Our next continuing education program is scheduled for December 11 and 12, 2002 in Birmingham at the Marriott Hotel. If you have not received your brochure for the 15th annual Governmental Accounting & Auditing Forum, please call the ASCPA at 334-834-7650.

I look forward to seeing you in Birmingham for the 2002 Governmental Accounting & Auditing Forum.

Judy



Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting **July 28, 2002** **Winfield Hotel** **Orange Beach, Alabama**

The GFOAA Board of Directors meeting was held July 28, 2002 at the Winfield Hotel in Orange Beach.



Business conducted included approval of the Minutes of May 3, 2002.

Steve Boone circulated the completed Annual Review report for the year ended March 31, 2002, as prepared by the Birmingham accounting firm of Mackle, Splawn, Tindall & McDonald, LLP.

Roger Rendleman distributed the financial reports for the period April 1, 2002 through July 26, 2002. (contact Roger Rendleman, Treasurer, at 334-737-3664 or rhrendleman@mindspring.com for copies of financial reports).

Certification Committee – Mike Wright, Chair
Mr. Wright reported that certification records are being updated and designees are being asked to document CPE credits. The new certification exam is being updated by the University of Texas and is expected to be completed in January 2003.

Plans are underway to offer the certification exams three times annually including the Forum.

Education Committee – Sarah Williams, Chair
On behalf of Sarah Williams, Ms. Kamnikar reported that Joan Ensley is working on the Forum, recruiting speakers and sponsors. A request was made from Travis Hulsey regarding co-sponsorship with IMA. After discussion it was recommended that Travis submit a formal request to Ms. Ensley so that the other sponsors would be included in any decisions.

Joan Ensley and Ed Kamnikar reported that the Forum conference will be held on December 11 and 12, 2002 at the Marriott Perimeter in Birmingham.

Governmental Relations – Gene Stabler, Chair
Ms. Kamnikar stated that the Committee recently met in Montgomery and a report will be made at a later meeting.

GFOA “Annual Governmental GAAP Update” Satellite Teleconference

Membership – Joan Ensley, Chair

Ms. Ensley distributed a report outlining the information anticipated to be included in the proposed membership directory. A motion was made that the directory be developed, that advertisements not be solicited or included, that the directory will be published in a hard copy and posted on the web site, the directory be updated annually, and the first publication be ready for the annual conference. Travis suggested that the directory promote the CGFO program and budget and financial reporting awards, list national GFOA certificate holders and that sponsors be acknowledged.

Public Information – Sherry Gurganus, Chair

Travis reported that the summer issue was e-mailed on July 26, 2002. Future issues will not be e-mailed but rather an internet link where the newsletter can be found will be included in the e-mail to minimize computer processing time.

Scholarship and Service – Travis Hulsey, Chair

Travis stated he has or expects scholarship applications from various universities. He and Sherry Gurganus will send a final reminder of the scholarship program to various universities throughout the state to promote further interest.

Further business.....

GFOAA 18th Annual Conference (2002)

Ms. Kamnikar distributed the final report on finances of the conference.

GFOAA 19th Annual Conference (2003)

Ms. Aldrich distributed a flyer for the upcoming conference.. The Conference Committee is preparing the budget, contracting sponsors and sending out correspondence. .

2003 Summer Conference:

Travis Hulsey stated that he will take on the responsibility for planning the 2003 Summer Conference as he was previously bypassed in the conference planning rotation. For those individuals requesting complete minutes or committee reports, please contact Steve Boone at 205-802-3825 or boones@mtnbrook.org



GFOA of Alabama is pleased to announce that it will serve as the host site at two locations in Alabama for the national GFOA “Annual Governmental GAAP Update” satellite teleconference. The program features a range of topics of direct and practical interest to accounting and auditing professionals in the public sector:

- The Governmental Accounting Standards Board’s (GASB) upcoming exposure draft on other post-employment benefits (OPEB)
- GASB exposure draft on the disclosure of investment risk.
- New GASB statement on affiliated organizations (GASB Statement No. 39)
- New reporting model version of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants’ audit and accounting guide Audits of State and Local Governmental Units.

Check web site for further topics.

The satellite teleconference will be held on Thursday, November 7, 2002 from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m., Central Time. Registration fees are \$95/Active GFOA Members, \$110/Public Sector Non-member , and Non-member Private Sector \$125 if postmarked by October 31, 2002, and \$125/Active GFOA Member, \$140/Public Sector Non-member and Non-member Private Sector \$155 if postmarked after October 31, 2002. Registration forms are available on the GFOA website at www.gfoa.org or by contacting the following local host sites:

Site AL02 – Birmingham, Alabama. Location: Birmingham Botanical Gardens – 2612 Lane Park Road. Coordinator: Danny Panos (205) 325-5632

Site AL01 – Mobile, Alabama. Location: City Hall North – 350 North St. Joseph Street, MIS Training Room. Coordinator: Linda Steele (334) 208-7167

Please make plans to attend this informative yet inexpensive training session which qualifies for 4 CPE credits.



GOVERNMENTAL
ACCOUNTING &
AUDITING
FORUM



BIRMINGHAM
MARRIOTT HOTEL
BIRMINGHAM,
ALABAMA

Fifteenth Annual December 11-12, 2002

Sponsoring Organizations

Association of Government Accountants
Montgomery Chapter

Government Finance Officers Association
of Alabama

Alabama Society of Certified Public Accountants

Tentative Agenda

Wednesday, December 11, 2002

- 8:30-9:00 a.m. Registration, Welcome and opening remarks
- 9:00-10:30 a.m. GASB Update – Present and Future of Government Standards
- 10:30-10:45 a.m. Break
- 10:45 – Noon Enterprise Risk Management – A COSO Initiative
- Noon-1:15 p.m. Lunch/Alabama Development Office
- 1:30-3:00 p.m. *Concurrent Sessions*
- (A) An Overview of Indirect Costs and Cost Allocation per OMB Circular A-87
 - (B) Basic Computer Forensics
- 3:00-3:15 p.m. Break

3:15-4:30 p.m. *Concurrent Sessions*

- (C) Workers Compensation Fraud – Prosecution, Management & Preventions
- (D) Goods & Services Purchasing Panel

Thursday, December 12, 2002

- 8:30-9:00 a.m. Welcome and opening remarks
- 9:00-10:30 a.m. XBRL – eXtensible Business Reporting Language Driving Transparency and Trust in Future Business Reporting
- 10:30-10:45 a.m. Break
- 10:45-Noon GAO Independence Standard
- Noon-1:00 p.m. Lunch/Announcements
- 1:00-2:30 p.m. *Concurrent Sessions*
- (A) Report Writing and Grammar, What's New Today?
 - (B) GASB 34 Implementation Panel
- 2:30-2:45 p.m. Break
- 2:45-4:00 p.m. *Concurrent Sessions*
- (C) A Primer on Business Ethics
 - (D) Statement on Auditing Standards (SAS) UPDATE
- 4:00 p.m. Adjourn

Sponsors

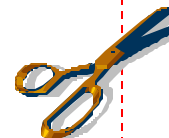
Alabama State Employees Association
Beason & Nalley, PC
Jackson Thornton & Co., P.C.
KPMG, LLP
Lawrence & Lawrence, PC
Maximus, Inc.
Wilson, Price, Barranco, Blankenship & Billingsley, P.C.

REGISTRATION FORM

GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING FORUM

December 11 and 12, 2002

Birmingham Marriott Hotel, Birmingham, Alabama



REGISTRATION FEE:

AGA, ASCPA, & GFOA Members

\$175.00 **Before** November 29, 2002

\$200.00 After November 29, 2002

\$20 Cancellation Fee

Non-Members

\$175.00 **Before** November 29, 2002

\$200.00 After November 29, 2002

\$20 Cancellation Fee

Qualifies for 16 hours of CPE credit

Name: _____ Badge Name _____

Company/Firm _____ Phone # _____

Address: _____ City/State _____ Zip _____

Please check here if you are disabled or require services. Attach a description of needs.

PLEASE SELECT ONE SESSION IN EACH TIME SLOT

Wednesday, December 11

1:30-3:00 p.m. OMB Circular A-87
 Computer Forensics

3:15-4:30 p.m. Workers Compensation Fraud
 Panel on Purchasing

Thursday, December 12

1:00-2:30 p.m. Business Writing
 Panel on GASB 34 Implementation

2:45-4:00 p.m. Business Ethics
 SAS Update

METHOD OF PAYMENT: Make checks payable to The Alabama Society of CPAs and mail to:
Alabama Society of CPEs • P. O. Box 5000 • Montgomery, AL 36103-5000

Check Enclosed Visa Mastercard

Credit Card Registration may be faxed: (334) 834-7310
or online at www.ascpa.org

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature of Card Holder: _____



The 97th Annual
Conference is
scheduled for
May 18-21, 2003 in
New York City.

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend the
97th annual GFOA conference

Upcoming Events

December 11, 2002

GFOAA Quarterly Board Meeting
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
VALIC Financial Advisors, Inc.
3535 Grandview Parkway – Suite 200
Birmingham, Alabama 35243

December 11-12, 2002

Governmental Accounting and Auditing Forum
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Birmingham Marriott Hotel
3590 Grandview Parkway
Birmingham, Alabama 35243
Reservations: 205-968-3775

February 19, 2003

GFOAA Quarterly Board Meeting
Location TBA
Mobile, Alabama

February 19-21, 2003

GFOAA 19th Annual Conference
Mobile, Alabama
Details TBA



CONGRATULATIONS Andrea Jackson

Congratulations to Andrea Jackson for the publication of her article “Taking the Plunge: The Conversion to a Multi-Year Budget” in Government Finance Review, the GFOA international magazine (Volume 18, Number 4, August 2002).

Andrea Jackson, CPA, CGFM, is finance director for the City of Auburn. She has more than 17 years of experience in governmental accounting and auditing and holds an MBA from Auburn University. If you have an interest in this article, or to obtain additional information, please contact Andrea at 334-501-7221 or www.ajackson@auburnalabama.org.



GFOAA Office Administration



Please notify Lisa Kamnikar to change your address, or other pertinent information, at the following address:

3813 Avondale Court
Montgomery, AL 36109
Phone: 334-271-3147 or
Email: Kamnikar@juno.com

We need your email addresses!

If you are presently receiving the newsletter by U.S. Mail and would prefer to receive it electronically in a PDF format, please contact Sherry Gurganus at: gurganuss@jccal.org

Thank You!

**Government Finance Officers
Association of Alabama
(GFOAA)**

April 1 – March 31, 2003

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