



\$\$ Money Talk \$\$

The Alabama Journal of Government Finance

Volume II

Summer

Edition #2

Government Finance Officers Association of Alabama

From the President.....

The spring quarter board meeting and site visit was held in Tuscaloosa on May 3.

Tuscaloosa Mayor Al DuPont, City Attorney Bob Ennis, Finance Director Mike Wright, Associate Finance Director Tracy Croom, and the Finance Department Staff conducted a very informative tour of the new courthouse and administrative offices. This is a wonderful addition to the City. On behalf of the GFOAA Board and



members in attendance, I want to express our appreciation to the Tuscaloosa Officials and Staff for their hospitality and arranging our meeting room needs.



The 2001 results of the GFOA Awards program again recognizes several Alabama entities that have earned the Excellence in Financial Reporting Award and/or the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award:

Excellence in Financial Reporting

Alabama Retirement Systems

Auburn

Alabama State Port Authority

Birmingham

Decatur

Dothan

Eufaula

Hoover

Huntsville

Mobile

Montgomery

State of Alabama

Tuscaloosa

Wetumpka

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Distinguished Budget Presentation

Auburn
Birmingham
Jefferson County

Congratulations recipients! Birmingham holds the lead position for having received 26 Excellence in Financial Reporting Awards and 15 Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards to date. One purpose of our organization is to support, through training, the ability of financial managers to improve communication and reporting of financial matters between their government and their constituencies. The GFOA awards program provides international objective recognition of the good work that is being done by so many finance professionals. This year's Summer Conference includes a program that can help you prepare for submission of your financial statements and/or budget for national review and recognition. Speakers will include GFOA reviewers and Alabama award recipients. I encourage you to set the GFOA awards as a goal for your government. No matter what size, the excellence in financial management of your government can be documented by receiving a GFOA award(s).

According to national GFOA, 35 Alabama delegates attended the GFOA Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado June 16-19. That is a record number. One of our own was a speaker - Andrea Jackson, Finance Director, City of Auburn. Good job Andrea! Besides all that learning, the Alabama delegates also met for an early (7:00 am) breakfast at the Cherokee Grill. Some were very daring and tried the famous Colorado "green chili" on their eggs. The Grill also served grits. Now if you are curious about the "green chili", give me a call.

GFOAA Committee Chairs have been meeting with their Committees to further the work of our organization. I know this is a busy time of the year with budget hearings and statewide elections looming but I want to thank the Committee Members for their dedication to GFOAA's objectives and the work that they are doing.

If you haven't registered for the Summer Conference in Orange Beach on July 29-30, you can still do that by downloading the registration form

from the website and faxing it to 334-244-3792. The Summer Conference Committee has worked hard to bring you a high quality program in a pleasant setting that permits networking with peers. And, they tell me that if it is too hot, the poolside reception on Monday night will be moved to an air-conditioned meeting room.

I look forward to seeing you in Orange Beach for the 2002 Summer Conference.

Judy



Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting May 3, 2002 Ferguson Center Tuscaloosa, Alabama

The GFOAA Board of Directors meeting was held May 3, 2002 at the University of Alabama Ferguson Center.



Business conducted included approval of the Minutes of March 5, 2002.

The financial report was presented by Steve Boone. He reported the fiscal 2002 financial report has been drafted and delivered to the accountants to commence the annual review. (contact Roger Rendleman, Treasurer, at 334-737-3664 or rrendleman@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. Mike also recommends adoption of CPE policies for retired members and granting extensions.

The Certification Committee has recommended that the By Laws be amended to reflect how often certification exams can be administered.

Education Committee – Sarah Williams, Chair

On behalf of Sarah Williams, Ms. Kamnikar reported that Sarah has been in contact with publishers about assembling testing materials for the proposed certification program.

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.

Mr. Kamnikar also reported that Gladys Gray will replace Steve Brown on the GAAF Education Committee.

Governmental Relations – Gene Stabler, Chair

Mr. Stabler reported that the committee is scheduled to meet Tuesday, May 7, 2002 to discuss its mission and invited Mr. and Mrs. Kamnikar to attend.

Membership – Joan Ensley, Chair

Ms. Kamnikar stated that Lisa Kamnikar, administrative services, has produced an updated listing of GFOAA members. The roster was distributed to committee members for review with the intent that changes and corrections be identified.

Ms. Kamnikar also reported that the Bank of New York has requested to buy ads in the GFOAA directory, after discussion, it was decided that the Membership Committee will meet to decide whether it recommends the solicitation of ads and what information is to be included in the directory when published.

Ms. Kamnikar reported that GFOA (national) requested a list of Alabama attendees for the Denver conference and the Board agreed that such information could be distributed to GFOA.

Public Information – Sherry Gurganus, Chair

Ms. Gurganus reported that the spring newsletter was recently distributed.

Strategic Planning – Ed Kamnikar, Chair

Mr. Kamnikar distributed the Strategic Plan including revisions and urged the committees to meet before July 15th in order that implementation plans can be assembled and discussed at the Summer Conference. If his schedule permitted, Ed would attend the committee meetings.

Further business.....

GFOAA 19th Annual Conference (2003)

Ms. Kamnikar informed the Board that the 2003 Annual Conference will be held February 19-21, 2003 at the Adams Mark Hotel in Mobile, Alabama.

GFOAA National Conference – Sherry Gurganus volunteered to attend the State Representatives’ meeting in Denver as Ms. Kamnikar would arrive in Denver at a later date.

New Business:

Nomination for Emeritus Members - Ms. Kamnikar reported that the criteria for emeritus membership includes being a member of GFOAA for at least 10 years and retired. Pending verification, 7 members were nominated for Emeritus Membership.

For those individuals requesting complete minutes or committee reports, please contact Steve Boone at 205-802-3825 or boones@mtnbrook.org.



GFOA 96th Annual Conference a Success!

Approximately 7,200 participants from across the continent and the world came to Denver, Colorado, June 16-19 for GFOA’s 2002 annual conference.

The Annual GFOA Conference sessions feature more than 60 concurrent session to create your own curriculum. Key disciplines cover: Accounting, Auditing, and Financial Reporting; Budgeting and Financial Planning; Cash Management and Investing; Debt Management; Management and Policy; Pensions and Benefits; and Technology and Digital Government.

The conference committees plan a number of social activities, along with activities for spouses, children and guests. The 97th Annual Conference is scheduled for May 18-21, 2003 in New York City.



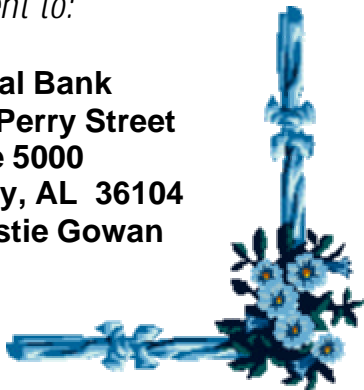


Janet Mularz Boys Scholarship Fund

A group of friends of Janet Mularz and her family have established a trust fund in her honor. The fund established is called "The Janet Mularz Boys Scholarship Fund." All donations to this fund will be used solely for the boys' college educations. As you know, Janet was killed in a tragic auto accident on February 10, 2002. She leaves behind Randy, her husband of twenty-five years, and three sons, Shep, Scott, and Sy. Janet was an independent contractor with the State of Alabama and was not eligible for state retirement benefits. They currently have two sons in college and Sy will enter college in August of 2003. Close friends of Janet knew of her love and dedication to her family and her desire to send all her boys to college. With your help, this desire can be fulfilled. We strongly hope that you reach within and help us raise money for this worthy cause. Please share this information with your friends. The Mularz family sincerely appreciates your help, caring and prayers.

Donations can be sent to:

**Colonial Bank
671 South Perry Street
Suite 5000
Montgomery, AL 36104
Attn: Christie Gowan**



GFOA Honors First Class of Certified Public Finance Officers

GFOA sponsored a brunch on June 16th at the annual conference in Denver honoring the 192 individuals that have been awarded the designation of Certified Public Finance Officer (CPFO). To earn this designation, candidates were required to demonstrate their knowledge of public finance by passing five separate examinations within a five-year period. This is the first class of CPFO designations awarded since the inception of the program. Congratulations to Alabama GFOA members Travis Hulsey and Mike Wright who are included in this select group of Certified Public Finance Officers.

To obtain additional information regarding the CPFO program, please contact GFOA at www.gfoa.org.



Alabama GFOA Breakfast

Alabama GFOA hosted an "Alabama Breakfast" on Tuesday, June 18th for members attending the National GFOA conference in Denver. Attendance was excellent for the breakfast as 34 individuals attended the 7:00 a.m. breakfast at Cherokee Dining on 12th. Special guests included: Linda Cramer, 1st VP of the Georgia GFOA; Lisa Miller, Director of Corporate Relations for Digital Assurance Certification (DAC); Eileen Foley, Analyst for J. P. Morgan; and Troy Kilpatrick, VP & Alabama Group Manager for The Bank of New York.

The ambiance was excellent and great food, fun and fellowship was enjoyed by everyone. When you're 2,000 miles from home its great to see "home folk" and hear those southern accents again.

-Travis A. Hulsey





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

December 11-12, 2002

Governmental Accounting and Auditing Forum
Birmingham Marriott Hotel
Birmingham, Alabama

February 19, 2003

GFOAA Quarterly Board Meeting
Location TBA
Mobile, Alabama

February 19-21, 2003

GFOAA 19th Annual Conference
Mobile, Alabama

Upcoming Events

July 28, 2002

GFOAA Quarterly Board Meeting

GFOAA Quarterly Board Meeting
July 28, 2002
Hampton Inn
Orange Beach, Alabama

July 29-30, 2002

GFOAA Summer Workshop



Windemere Conference Center
22988 Perdido Beach Boulevard
Orange Beach, AL 36561

December 11, 2002

GFOAA Quarterly Board Meeting
Location TBA
Birmingham, Alabama



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



A people that values its privileges above its principles soon loses both.

-Dwight D. Eisenhower

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!

Reminder!

Promoting Careers in Government Finance

Each year, GFOAA awards five scholarships in the amount of \$2,000 each. The scholarships are awarded for a period of one year (\$1,000 per semester), commencing with the Fall semester following the application period. **Application packages are to be postmarked no later than August 31.**

Qualifications:

1. Recipients must be undergraduates of junior or senior status with a major course of study in accounting or business administration with a major in accounting or finance, or individuals seeking a Master of Business Administration or Master of Public Administration with an undergraduate degree in accounting or finance or a concentration in accounting. Priority is given to those students who demonstrate a career interest in the government finance area.
2. The student must be an Alabama resident and a full-time student attending an accredited four-year or graduate college or university at the time of scholarship distribution.
3. The recipient may be a GFOAA member's dependent child enrolled in an undergraduate program majoring in accounting or related field, regardless of classification.

4. The recipient may be a GFOAA member enrolled in graduate school program majoring in accounting or related field.

Undergraduate applicants:

1. Must be of junior or senior standing and have completed Intermediate Accounting I by the Fall term.
2. Must have a GPA of 3.0 or greater computed on a 4.0 scale, in both the major subject and overall at the time of application.
3. Should reference coursework in government accounting, internship or part time work in government finance, or other basis of interest as evidence of interest in the government finance area (if applicable).
4. Should be attending full time. Twelve quarter or semester hours are considered full time.

Graduate applicants:

1. Must have a GPA of 3.5 or greater computed on a 4.0 scale.
2. Should reference current employment in government (non-military personnel) or other basis of interest as evidence of interest in the government finance area (if applicable).
3. Should be attending full time. Ten quarter or six semester hours are considered full time.

Checks will be made payable to the scholarship recipient. To receive the scholarship, recipients must submit proof of enrollment for the award period (tuition receipt and official transcript or notarized statement from the college/university registrar). If recipient is enrolled in Alabama's PACT program, proof of enrollment is limited to an official transcript or notarized statement from the college/university registrar.

Travis A. Hulsey, Chair
Scholarship and Service Committee
hulseyt@jcc.co.jefferson.al.us

[Click here for application and instructions](#)

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

April 1 – March 31, 2003

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND
OFFICERS**

President:

Judith Kamnikar, CGFO
Office: 334-244-3496/Fax: 334-244-3792
jkamnikar@monk.aum.edu

First Vice President:

Tracy Croom, CGFO
Office: 205-349-0112/Fax: 205-349-0197
tcroom@ci.tuscaloosa.al.us

Second Vice President:

Joan Ensley, CGFO
Office: 334-214-2033/Fax: 334-241-4422
jensley@ci.montgomery.al.us

Secretary:

Steven Boone
Office: 205-802-3825/Fax: 205-879-6913
boones@mtnbrook.org

Treasurer:

Roger Rendleman, CGFO
Office: 334-737-3664/Fax: 334-742-9478
rhrendleman@mindspring.com

Directors

Patricia Aldrich, CGFO
Office: 251-208-7148/Fax: 251-208-7756
Pat.Aldrich@cityofmobile.org

Bill A. Flowers, CGFO
Office: 334-242-6362/Fax: 334-832-9022
flowersbi@dot.state.al.us

Andrea Jackson
Office: 334-887-4920/Fax: 334-887-4996
ajackson@auburnalabama.org

Angela Palmer
Office: 334-793-0144
atpalmer@dothan.org

Penny Smith
Office: 256-351-7586
psmith@ci.decatour.al.us

Tony Stapler
Office: 256-549-4510/Fax: 256-459-4512
Tstapler@gadsden.com

Al Westbrook
Office: 205-967-8974/Fax: 205-967-9187
Al_westbrook@agfg.com

Travis A. Hulsey, CPFO, CGFO
Office: 205-325-5738/Fax: 205-325-5841
hulseyt@jccal.org

Committee Chairpersons

Certification Board

Mike Wright, CPFO, CGFO
Office: 205-349-0113
mwright@ci.tuscaloosa.al.us

Education Committee

Sarah Williams, CGFO
Office: 334-206-6280
sarahw25@earthlink.net

Governmental Relations Committee

Eugene "Gene" Stabler
Office: 334-277-4030

Membership Committee

Joan Ensley, CGFO
Office: 334-214-2033/Fax: 334-241-4422
jensley@ci.montgomery.al.us

Public Information Committee

Sherry R. Gurganus
Office: 205-325-5763/Fax: 205-325-5841
gurganuss@jccal.org

Scholarships & Service Committee

Travis A. Hulsey, CPFO, CGFO
Office: 205-325-5738/Fax: 205-325-5841
hulseyt@jccal.org

Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee

Edward G. Kamnikar, CGFO
Office: 334-241-5438
ekamnikar@tsum.edu



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The Alabama Journal of Government Finance

Editor: Sherry R. Gurganus



**Sherry R. Gurganus
Jefferson County Finance Department
Suite 810 – Courthouse
716 Richard Arrington Jr. Blvd. N.
Birmingham, AL 35203**