

\$\$ MONEY TALK \$\$

The Alabama Journal of Government Finance



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Summer 2014

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FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Well it is hard to believe, but summer break is already over. I hope all of you had a chance to take a vacation and enjoy some rest and relaxation.

Some of us were able to attend the GFOA national conference that was held May 18th thru the 21st in Minneapolis, Minnesota. What a breadth of information our national organization provided in the various topics and sessions, as well as a fantastic opportunity to meet with a multitude of vendors! As technology continues to take over our world, it is imperative to keep up with the latest trends and products in order to make our job easier and relevant to all age groups. During our stay in Minnesota, GFOAA sponsored a breakfast event for our members who attended the conference. We had 16 people attend the breakfast and a picture is provided later in this newsletter. It is always nice to have a social event where we can get to know our state peers in a more relaxed atmosphere. Many thanks to everyone who attended!



On July 31st, some of the GFOAA board and other positions met in Montgomery to view three demonstrations from website providers. GFOAA recognizes that one of our strongest ways to communicate information to our members, sponsors, as well as potential members and potential sponsors, is to have a strong, updated website that can serve as an outreach tool as well

as a communicative device. This meeting was to view what products are available, so we can update our existing site to be more technologically innovative and informative. We will be seeking your input and suggestions as this process moves forward.

Speaking of the Summer Conference, it will be held in Orange Beach, Alabama from August 20th to August 22nd at the Hampton Inn & Suites. Kelly Brendle is the conference chair and she and her conference committee have done a great job with the schedule and events. The itinerary includes a broad range of topics for our profession. For a complete agenda, please go to our website at www.gfoaa.org.

In addition to our upcoming summer conference, GFOAA also has two courses scheduled for the Certified Governmental Accounting Technician (CGAT) Program. The courses include **Purchasing/Accounts Payable** (August 28, 2014) and **Billing/Accounts Receivable** (November 6, 2014). Both of these courses will be held at the Bryant Conference Center in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. I highly encourage you to let all departments in your organization know about these classes and this program. It is beneficial not only for staff working in the finance department, but also for staff in other departments that deal with finance related issues.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

In order to continue our organization's success as we go through this next year and beyond, we need input from you the membership. If there are any suggestions that you have to enhance GFOAA and the education it provides to you and your organizations, please do not hesitate to contact me. Also, if you are willing to volunteer for future opportunities and get involved with our organization, let me know that too. The GFOAA was established as a state-wide organization that would focus on the needs of those individuals responsible for or involved in the financial arena of a governmental entity or other not-for-profit organization. The only way we can focus on your needs is if you let us know what those

needs are and how GFOAA can help meet them.

Until next time, I hope you enjoy the last days of summer. If there is anything that GFOAA can do for you and your organization, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Melinda James Lopez

205.444.7612

jamesm@ci.hoover.al.us

108TH GFOA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

The 108th GFOA Annual Conference was held in Minneapolis, Minnesota May 18–21, 2014. As always, members of GFOAA who attended enjoyed breakfast together Tuesday morning. The GFOA's 109th Annual Conference will take place on May 31-June 3, 2015, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.



UPCOMING EVENTS

GFOAA Quarterly Board Meeting

August 20, 2014 * 9:30 a.m.
Hampton Inn and Suites Orange Beach
25518 Perdido Beach Blvd.
Orange Beach, AL 36561
Details TBA.

GFOAA Summer Conference

*“Charting the Course to Excellence in
Governmental Financial Management”*

August 20–22, 2014
Hampton Inn and Suites
25518 Perdido Beach Blvd.
Orange Beach, Alabama 36561

Accommodations:

For reservations: 1-251-923-4400 (rate code is GFO) or
http://hamptoninn.hilton.com/en/hp/groups/personalized/M/MOBOBH-X-GFO-20140819/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG.
Conference rates: \$134/night (inland); \$149 (side view) and \$164/night (beachfront); the group block dates are August 19 thru 22. The special rates for Friday and Saturday nights, 8/22 and 8/23, are \$172 (inland)/\$187 (side)/\$202 (beachfront) per night. The hotel rate includes a Deluxe Continental Breakfast.

[Attendee Registration Form](#)

[Sponsor/Vendor Registration Information](#)



GFOAA Quarterly Board Meeting

December 3, 2014
Birmingham, AL
Details TBA.

27th Annual Government Accounting and Auditing Forum

December 3 - 4, 2014
Birmingham Marriott
3590 Grandview Parkway
Birmingham, AL 35243
Details TBA.

Certified Government Accounting Technician

August 28, 2014—Purchasing/Accounts Payable
November 6, 2014—Billing/Accounts Receivable

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 by clicking [here](#) or by
email to tcroom@tuscaloosa.com

QUARTERLY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MOBILE, ALABAMA
FEBRUARY 24, 2014

The Quarterly Board of Directors meeting was held February 24, 2014 at the Battle House Renaissance Mobile Hotel & Spa in Mobile. President Derek Reeves called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Minutes of the December 11, 2013 board meeting held in Birmingham, Alabama were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report—Carole Heggeman presented the financial statements as of January 31, 2014. The Treasurer's Report was approved. Carole also presented the 2014-2015 budget. After some discussion, the budget was approved.

Certification Board and CGAT- Sarah Williams reported that all CGFO renewals were done except for two, Steve Richey and Sheila Williams-Hester. The CGAT summer conference will be held in June.

Scholarships, Awards, and Service— Derek Reeves reported for Russell Raney that two scholarships awarded for the past year will be presented at the annual meeting. There are two recommendations for next year, both meeting the qualifications.

Membership—Derek Reeves reported that the brochure will be discussed at the spring board meeting. Charles Clack asked that the members be reminded to complete the membership profiles provided in the conference materials.

2014 Annual Conference—Linda Steele reported that there were 102 registered for the conference. There are 11 sponsors.

2014 Summer conference— Kelly Brendle reported that a committee has been formed to plan the conference. The conference will be at the Hampton Inn on August 20-22, 2014. She asked for speaker ideas.

New Business- Derek Reeves presented a list of proposed officers and directors for 2014-2015. Sarita Tapscott and Keren Deal will rotate off the Board of Directors and will take the Treasurer and Secretary officer positions, respectively. Carly Standridge from the City of Tuscaloosa and Elizabeth Howell from the Mobile County Commission are nominations for the two vacant seats on the Board of Directors. Derek presented the University of Alabama contract for CGAT program management, the website contract, contingent on it being changed to a one year term and with clarification on whether it's a contract with ProNets, LLC or Performance Support, Inc., the Administrative Assistant contract, and the newsletter publishing contract.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

For a complete copy of the minutes, contact Melinda Lopez or any of the committee chairs.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

APRIL 1, 2014—MARCH 31, 2015

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Please notify Jamie Moyers to change your address, or other pertinent information,
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COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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Scholarships & Service

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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**

P. O. Box 240574
Montgomery, AL
36124-0574

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.

\$\$ MONEY TALK \$\$

The Alabama Journal of Government Finance

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CGFO REVOCATIONS

The following individuals have not supplied renewal information for their CGFO certificates: therefore, they no longer have CGFO status. They are not permitted to use the designation (initials) on their business cards, their stationary, nor in any document demonstrating their expertise.

Steve Richey

Certificate #83

Sheila Williams-Hester

Certificate #65