



MINNESOTA GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

MnGFOA NEWSLETTER

April 2007

Excellence and Leadership in Government Finance

www.mngfoa.org

Message from the President

By Greg Sticha

Spring time!!! Yes it is that time of the year again; snow is melting, people taking vacations, and tournament time. On a personal note I will be taking a family vacation to Disney World this month, and I am about 95% excited about the trip. My one concern is the plane trip there and back, as we have booked our trip as most people do thru a charter or group package. This means of course I get to be on a plane with a bunch of other people's kids who are loud and excited to be going to Disney World. Since my kids are complete angels, I get to see how the rest of the world's children are not as well behaved as mine. (OK, if you're buying this I also have a bridge for sale in Chanhassen that is slightly used and will move it for the right price)

So in March we had our annual CAFR review session. I consider CAFR's to be very similar to children on a plane trip and my list below proves that.

- Each is a lot of work.
- Each involves kicking & screaming at some point.
- Each involves someone looking over your shoulder to make sure you are good (in the case of the CAFR, our auditors or the GFOA).
- Everyone thinks their CAFR/kid is better than others.
- At some point during the process you hear "You better not do that again mister."
- Your spouse or Assistant Finance Director says "Hey, it's your CAFR/kid."
- Someone will eventually start to cry, the longer the process goes on.
- Everyone else around you keeps thinking "I'm glad I'm not him."

So as you can see our CAFR's/children are something we are all very proud of, but the GFOA makes sure to point out some ways to make them better. I am curious: do they give parenting advice as well???

In all seriousness, the certificate program is a wonderful accomplishment for all who participate, and the feedback we get from GFOA only helps make our reports the best they can be. I would like to thank the people at Tautges, especially Peggy Moeller and David Blumberg, one more time for all the hard work they do to put on the session. All of us in the organization are very appreciative.

April Meeting



Date:	Wednesday, April 18, 2007
Location:	Minneapolis Sheraton 4 Points
Topic:	Legislative Update
Speaker:	League of Minnesota Cities Representative
Time:	11:30 a.m. – Presentation & Business Mtg 12:15 p.m. – Lunch
Menu:	Parmesan Chicken
Cost:	\$15.00

Reservations: You may leave your reservation on our website at www.mngfoa.org or e-mail Cathy Shuman (cathy.shuman@ci.monticello.mn.us) by Thursday, April 12th. (*Vegetarian meal choice available.*)

2007 Meeting Dates

Monthly Meetings:

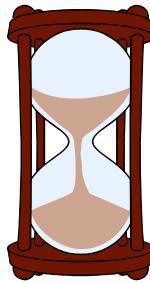
May 16 – Quarterly Training in Mankato
No June Meeting July 18 August 15

Annual Conferences:

GFOA – Anaheim, California June 10-13
MnGFOA – Alexandria, MN Sept. 19-21

Scholarship Deadlines

The **John Lilja Undergraduate Scholarship** application deadline is April 15th. This Scholarship is for any undergraduate student of accounting or government finance at a college or university located in the State of Minnesota. The amount of each scholarship is \$1000 and the MnGFOA awards at least one – and possibly up to four scholarships each year. Applications are available on the MnGFOA website.



Congratulations To The Following...

- Todd Hurley – the new Director of Municipal Finance for RBC Capital Markets. Todd was previously the Treasurer of the City of St. Paul. He had worked for St. Paul for the last 23 years! (I hear he started part-time when he was in high school). Good luck in your new job Todd!
- Jodi Bursheim, her husband Dan, and big sister Kayla who welcomed a baby boy into their family on February 12th at 10:08 PM. His name is Zachary Allan and he weighed in at 8 lbs 10 oz and was 21” long. All are doing well. Jodi’s job (other than Mom) is Assistant Finance Director at the City of St. Louis Park. Best wishes to you and your family, Jodi.

o r n e r Committee

Executive Committee Update

The following are highlights of the March 21st meeting:

- Approved minutes, check register and treasurers report from February.
- Discussed current Membership, Conference and Monthly luncheon fees.

IN CASE YOU ARE INTERESTED:

On May 3, 2007, Minnesota PRIMA (Public Risk Managers Association) has retained Dr. Michael Osterholm, a world leading expert on public preparedness for pandemics and bioterrorist attacks, to come and address its membership and other public entity personnel on the timely topic of "Pandemic/Avian Flu--Are We Prepared?"

Dr. Osterholm will specifically address the potential human, social and economic consequences of a flu pandemic, and the preparations that will need to be made to meet this threat. With many experts thinking that a major flu pandemic is a matter of when, not if, Dr. Osterholm's ideas are vital elements in developing an informed and balanced approach to a major issue of public health and security.

The presentation will take place at the City of Bloomington's Schneider Theater, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington, MN 55431, from 9-11 AM. The cost for attending is \$40 per person. Lunch will be included in the registration. Pre-registration is required. A copy of the registration form can be found on MN PRIMA's website at: www.mnprima.avenet.net



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HAPPY SPRING

Message from the Editor

“Spring has sprung, the grass is ‘riz, I wonder where the birdies is?” Or...your job openings, ads, career moves, or other items of note. Send them to me by the 20th of this month and I’ll put them in the next newsletter.

Thanks!
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