



MINNESOTA GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

MnGFOA NEWSLETTER

April 2010

Excellence and Leadership in Government Finance

www.mngfoa.org

Message from the President

By Cathy Shuman

Exciting news has arrived – the National GFOA Conference will be coming to Minneapolis in 2014!! The City of Minneapolis applied to host the conference sometime between 2014 and 2018 and was recently notified of the selection. They will be looking for assistance from MnGFOA so stay tuned for updates.

Thank you to the Education Committee, HLB Tautges Redpath, and members who attended or helped in any way with the CAFR sessions held in conjunction with the March monthly luncheon and in St Cloud. Feedback from the March 17 session was very positive and we are proud that we can provide this kind of training for our members.

If possible, consider attending the April monthly luncheon and speaker – more information is included inside this newsletter. The cost is only \$15 – well worth it for lunch plus excellent speakers and relevant topics.

Susan Gaffney, a director of the National GFOA, notified us that the GFOA's Advanced Government Finance Institute (AGFI) will now be held every other year. The next program is set for July 24-29, 2011 at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Our organization offers scholarships for the AGFI each year. In light of this recent announcement, the Board decided to provide alternative training scholarships in the opposite years.

This fits in nicely with the announcement of the National GFOA 2010 training schedule which includes a stop at the Hyatt Regency in Minneapolis the week of July 19-22.

The new GFOA Training Scholarships will offer five \$500 scholarships to be applied toward any of these training sessions. Please check inside this newsletter for information and application form, which is due by April 30, 2010. You can find more information on these excellent training courses at www.gfoa.org. If you do attend these training sessions, please mark your calendar as the Minnesota GFOA plans to host a hospitality room on one of the days.

The Social Committee, headed by Dennis Sonnek and Sharon Kutzke, has some great events in store for us this year. Here's a sneak preview and keep tuned for more information on a Twins game in June (limited tickets available), annual golf outing in July, and Lake Minnetonka boat cruise in conjunction with the August monthly luncheon. They have also lined up excellent entertainment for the annual conference in September.

TWINS TICKETS



The Social Committee is planning an outing to a game at the new stadium.

Game details: June 17th @ 12:10 start, Section 132 Rows 1-4. Price \$24 each. Only 60 tickets are available and you must register and pay on-line. There is a limit of 2 tickets per person, don't delay, the tickets will go fast. If you have questions contact Tonya Weinert at tlweinert@hotmail.com or 651.269.7137.

MONTHLY MEETING



DATE: Wednesday, April 21, 2010
LOCATION: Ramada Plaza, Minneapolis
TOPIC: Rethinking Your Budget Strategies, Beyond the Balance Sheet
SPEAKERS: David Unmacht
TIME: 11:30 am – Speaker
12:00 pm– Luncheon
LUNCH: Penne Pasta and Grilled Chicken
COST: \$15

Topic - Rethinking Your Budget Strategies, Beyond the Balance Sheet

Raising awareness and highlighting the importance of five historical, yet now more critically important, dimensions of local government budgeting. This will address the leadership challenge of moving forward collectively by rethinking the traditional budget process. The approach looks at moving from an internally driven process to an externally focused communication tool, combining the value and consideration of five concepts, creating partnerships, and leading organizational change.

David J. Unmacht, Senior Vice President and Consultant, is director of Springsted's Organizational Management/Human Resources group. Mr. Unmacht brings more than one decade of county administration experience, having worked for Scott and Dakota counties, Minnesota. He has also worked as City Manager in Prior Lake and City Administrator in Belle Plaine, Minnesota. He guides clients in budget and resource planning, organizational and leadership development, staff/elected official relations, human resources, intergovernmental collaborations, comprehensive planning and growth management, communication strategies, facilitation services and strategic planning. He has a master's in Public Administration from Drake University in Iowa and a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Political Science from Wartburg College in Iowa.

Reservations: It is preferred that you register on the MnGFOA website (mngfoa.org) – there is a link on the home page to register for the luncheon event. You can pay for the luncheon online also!!

You could also send an email to Cory Kampf @ cory.kampf@brooklynpark.org or leave a voice mail for Cory at 763.493.8150 no later than Friday, April 16th .

Please remember to register for the meeting to provide that enough meals are ordered and tables set up for the meeting. Thank you.

CPFO Testing – June 3, 2010

The City of Forest Lake will be hosting a CPFO examination on Thursday, June 3, 2010 from 1:30 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. at the Forest Lake City Hall.

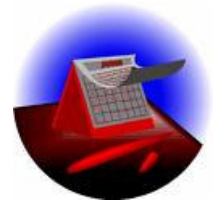
For further information on the examination, please see the GFOA website.

For information about this test site, contact Ellen Paulseth, Finance Director, City of Forest Lake,

CPFO Testing - Additional Sites and Dates

- June 3rd – City of Forest Lake
- September 21– Annual Conference
- November- still being confirmed

GFOA National Conference Coming Back to Minnesota



Minneapolis has been selected to host the GFOA Conference in 2014 to be held May 18-21, 2014. This will be Minneapolis's third time hosting this prestigious event.

As this event nears there will be plenty of opportunities to help out in planning the event. Until a committee is formed, Pat Born, CFO Minneapolis will be the contact for additional information. Watch upcoming newsletters for opportunities to help plan some of the conference events.

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Teresa Walters was appointed the Finance Director for the City of Farmington as of 3-22-10. Teresa was the Finance Director for the City of Waseca for the past 2 years, 9 months. Prior to that, she worked for the City of Bloomington for almost 10 years.

COMMITTEE

ORNER

Executive Committee Update

The Executive Committee met on March 24th and took the following actions:

- Approved meeting minutes for February
- Approved check registers and Treasurer's reports for February
- Discussed the contract for the Annual Conference for 2011 to 2014.
- Discussed advertising options for associate members
- Approved scholarships for up to five people to attend National GFOA training sessions in July 2010.
- Discussed contacts from companies looking to manage our training events and from a hotel looking to host our monthly meetings.

Membership Renewals



Don't Miss

By now you should have received your MnGFOA renewal notice in the mail. You can also complete the renewal process online on the MnGFOA website. Renewals and payments are currently past due.

Renewal forms should be mailed (*even if you register on line*) to: Cory Kampf, City of Brooklyn Park, 5200 - 85th Avenue North, Brooklyn Park, MN 55443. Please note that you can help save on postage and printing by requesting your newsletter by email. Mark your membership renewal form in the appropriate spot.

NEW!! GFOA Training Scholarships Announced



Scholarship Opportunity for GFOA Training sessions held in Minneapolis in July 2010.

The Executive Committee will be offering five scholarships, of up to \$500 per person, to attend an upcoming training session to be held in Minneapolis this coming July. The scholarship will reimburse toward the registration fee upon successful completion of the training session. To apply, complete the application form available on the MnGFOA website and return to Cory Kampf. The application deadline is April 30, 2010.

July 2010 Topics Offered:

- *Performance Management Best Practices (July 19-20)*
- *Advanced Financial Reporting for Governments (July 20-22)*

- *Advanced Tools: Long-Term Financial Planning (July 21-22)*
- *Accounting & Financial Reporting for Enterprise Funds and Stand-Alone Business-Type Activities (July 19)*

For additional information on the GFOA sessions being offered visit the GFOA's website at www.GFOA.org and follow the links to the Training section. The intent of the Executive Board is to offer these scholarships in even years, when the National GFOA does not offer the Advanced Government Finance Institute.

Changes to GFOA's Advanced Government Finance Institute

The GFOA's Advanced Government Finance Institute **will now be held every other year**, with the next program set for July 24-29, 2011, at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. For additional information on the GFOA's program you may contact [Susan Gaffney](mailto:Susan.Gaffney@GFOA.org) at the GFOA. The MnGFOA offers scholarships to attend the Advanced Government Finance Institute; information is provided in our monthly newsletter and the MnGFOA website in advance of the event.

Because of this change by the national GFOA, the **Lori A. Webster Advanced Government Finance Institute Scholarship** for 2010 will not be offered and will switch to alternating "odd-numbered" years.

Important Dates

- April 21, 2010 – Monthly Luncheon, Ramada Plaza Minneapolis
- May 19, 2010 – Monthly Luncheon, Ramada Plaza Minneapolis
- June 3, 2010 – CPFO Exam, Forest Lake City Hall
- June 16, 2010 – Monthly Luncheon Ramada Plaza Minneapolis
- June 6-June 9, 2010 – National GFOA Conference, Atlanta, GA
- June 17, 2010 – Twins Game Outing, Noon start.
- July 21, 2010 – Monthly Luncheon, Ramada Plaza Minneapolis
- July 2010 – Golf Outing details to TBD
- August 18, 2010 – Monthly Luncheon, Lake Minnetonka
- September 22-24, 2010 – Annual Conference, Alexandria, MN
- October 20, 2010 – Monthly Luncheon, Ramada Plaza Minneapolis
- October 2009 – Beginning & Advanced Governmental Accounting, TBD
- November 17, 2010 – Quarterly Training (topic TBD), Ramada Plaza Minneapolis
- December 15, 2010 – Monthly Luncheon, Ramada Plaza Minneapolis

Ron Hedberg
City of Apple Valley
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Message from the Editor



Hello to all members of the Minnesota GFOA. I am serving as the Editor of the newsletter for the 2010 year. Please send me any news for our newsletter: job openings, ads related to government finance, career moves, committee updates, or other noteworthy items.

The cutoff date is the 20th of each month, and the newsletter will be emailed or mailed about the first day of the upcoming month.

Thanks.

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John Lilja Undergraduate Scholarship Deadline Approaching



The MnGFOA provides scholarship opportunities to undergraduate students of accounting or government finance attending any college or university located in Minnesota. The application deadline for the **John Lilja Undergraduate Scholarship** is April 15, 2010. The amount of each scholarship is \$1000, and the MnGFOA awards at least one a year.

Scholarship application forms are available on the MnGFOA website or you can contact Secretary Jesse Hart for information. Completed applications should be emailed to Jesse at jessie.hart@ci.white-bear-township.mn.us