



MINNESOTA GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

MnGFOA NEWSLETTER

December 2009

Excellence and Leadership in Government Finance

www.mngfoa.org

Message from the President

By Larry Jacobson

It seems like only yesterday that I was working on my inaugural president's message, now look, here is the month December. Wow, what a year! The theme for the conference pretty well sums it up - It's a Whole New Ballgame.

We have had a pretty interesting year, state aid cut backs, foreclosures, interest rates at record lows (not good for the portfolio), opportunities to refinance old debt at low interest rates (good for the debt service schedule), and other things to numerous to remember.

What I do remember is this, that despite all the challenges, the members of Minnesota GFOA - ROCK. As a group we were always ready to assist other members in any way that we could (how do you spell furlough anyway?)

I have been on the Executive Board for four years. The time has gone quickly. The position of President goes smoothly due to the talent of the members. It's the talent of our members, who volunteer their time to be on committees, and especially those that chair committees. So here goes - with the Kudos, great job and many thanks that are due to:

- The Conference Committee for the work on the annual conference – Dan Jordet, Chair, and;
- The Social Committee for the work at the annual conference and the social activities that were organized during the year – Tina Lannes, Chair, and;
- The Program Committee for putting together the various monthly speakers for the luncheons each month – Tammy Wilson, Chair, and;
- The Education Committee for the putting together our educational trainings during the year - Joel Merry, Chair, and;
- The Technology Committee for assisting with the website and other items this year - Mark Beer, Chair, and

- The Treasurer Selection Committee for the behind the scenes work they do on selection the next Treasurer for the organization – Tom Pepper, Chair.

Thank you - to everyone on the committee, you do good work!

A final thanks to members of the Executive Board for the diligent effort put forth throughout the year: from keeping track of the money (Jessie Hart), to taking care of the minutes and scholarships (Ron Hedberg), to making sure the newsletter is put together (Cathy Shuman), to our past president for keeping the President on track (Robin Roland), to making sure the CAFR awards have a GFOA presence at city council meetings (Jim Knutson) and to the at-large members who contributed their independent thoughts and ideas, (Jennifer Vucinovich and Daryl Sulander).

It's been an honor to serve as President this year. Thanks for your support to me and the other members of the organization. Have a great holiday. Hope to see you on December 9th for a holiday get together and don't forget your toys!

NEW!!

Register and Pay for Monthly Luncheon Meetings Online!

Go to www.mngfoa.org home page and click on the link for the monthly luncheon registration. Follow the instructions to register and then you can pay by credit card after you register. (You also have the option of paying by check or cash at the luncheon.) Remember, when you preregister for the luncheon, a meal will be reserved for you. This will also ensure enough tables are set up for all attendees.



MONTHLY MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, **December 9**, 2009
LOCATION: Ramada Plaza, Minneapolis ~Itasca Room
TOPIC: "2010 Legislative Session – Impacts on Communities"
SPEAKER: State Senator Tarryl Clark
TIME: 11:30 am to 12:00 pm – Speaker
 12:00-12:45 pm – Luncheon & Toy Drive
 12:45 pm – Holiday Social
 1:15 pm – Idea Session
LUNCH: Open Faced Turkey Sandwich
COST: \$15



Reservations: It is preferred that you register on the MnGFOA website (mngfoa.org) – there is a link on the home page to go to register for the luncheon event. NEW – you can also prepay for the luncheon online!! You could also send an email to Jessie Hart (jessie.hart@ci.white-bear-township.mn.us) or leave a voice mail for Jessie at 651.747.2760 no later than Friday, December 5th.

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

Topic: Senator Clark will be addressing the upcoming 2010 legislative session issues, budget impacts on communities, health care, jobs and economic development. She is asked to specifically cover important topics for governments to know and be prepared for as we approach 2010.

Speaker: *Senator Tarryl Clark, Assistant Majority Leader, Minnesota State Legislature*

State Senator Tarryl Clark serves as the Assistant Majority Leader of the Senate. She was elected in 2005 as the senator from District 15 in the St Cloud area. She is an Attorney and Consultant and serves as Executive Director for the Minnesota Community Action Association. She serves on the following Senate committees: Education, Finance Subcommittee for E-12 Budget and Policy Division, Finance Subcommittee for Higher Education Budget and Policy Division, Higher Education, Rules and Administration, Rules and Administration Subcommittee for Conference Committees, and Rules and Administration Subcommittee for Permanent and Joint Rules.

December Toy Drive

Don't forget to bring new, unwrapped toys or cash to the December MnGFOA luncheon meeting. Items will be collected and delivered to Community Toys for Tots for distribution to needy families.

2009 Important Dates

MONTHLY MEETINGS/EVENTS:

- December 9, 2009 – Monthly Luncheon & Holiday Social – followed by a short Idea Session for Education, Program and Technology committees, Ramada Plaza Minneapolis
- January 20, 2010 – Monthly Luncheon, Ramada Plaza Minneapolis
- February 17, 2010 - Monthly Luncheon, Ramada Plaza Minneapolis
- March 17, 2010 – CAFR Training & Monthly Luncheon, Ramada Plaza Minneapolis

CHANGED JOBS OR CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGED?

Have you changed jobs or has your contact information changed recently? If so we would encourage you to update this information directly on the MnGFOA web site in the Members section under "Update Members Information." If you do not remember your login information (user name and/or password) there is a link on the home page to make a request for that information to be emailed directly to you. The web site data base is the official member data base and should be current so to ensure you receive timely information from the organization; please keep your information current.
THANKS!



Committee

Executive Committee Update

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The 2009 Executive Committee met on November 18, 2009 for the monthly board meeting at the Ramada Plaza. Discussion included:

- Approval of the October minutes
- Approval of the October Check Register and Treasurer's Report
- Discussion of GTS contract
- Discussion of MnGFOA website
- December 9 Holiday Social and Idea Session for Education, Program and Technology committees
- Preview 2010 proposed budget
- Letter of Support for GFOA National Conference 2014-2018
- Contract for MnGFOA state conference

November Food Drive – A Success!



The Social Committee would like to say “Thank you” to the generous MnGFOA members who contributed \$165 cash and 129 pounds of food for the food drive held in conjunction with the November monthly luncheon meeting.

YOU'RE INVITED... TO AN IDEA SESSION

On Wednesday, December 9, following the monthly luncheon and holiday social, the MnGFOA will be holding an idea session for those involved and interested in the Education, Program and Technology committees. The session will start at 1:15pm and run for 30-45 minutes. The focus will be on ideas for speakers and topics for 2010 training sessions and monthly luncheons and the format for holding these events (dates, times, preparation, registration, etc). Please bring your ideas to share with the group.

A listserv will be sent out on this. For more information, you can email cathy.shuman@ci.monticello.mn.us.

2009 OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

<u>President</u> Larry Jacobson City of Robbinsdale 763.531.1215	<u>Past President</u> Robin Roland City of Cottage Grove 651.458.2800
<u>President Elect</u> Cathy Shuman City of Monticello 763.271.3204	<u>At-Large</u> Daryl Sulander LOGIS 763.543.2607
<u>Secretary</u> Ron Hedberg City of Apple Valley 952.953.2500	<u>At-Large</u> Jennifer Vucinovich US Bank 651.466.8750
<u>Treasurer</u> Jessie Hart Township of White Bear 651.747.2760	<u>State Rep</u> Jim Knutson City of Maple Grove 763.494.6321

2009 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

<u>Conference</u>	Dan Jordet Brooklyn Center	763.569.3345
<u>Education</u>	Joel Merry Blaine	763.785.6142
<u>Program</u>	Tammy Wilson Eden Prairie	952.949.8376
<u>Social</u>	Tina Lannes Albertville	763.497.3384
<u>Technology</u>	Mark Beer Mounds View	763.717.4011
<u>Selection</u>	Tom Pepper Eagan	651.675.5017

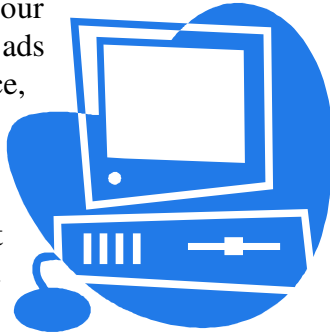
If you wish to know more about or help out on any of these committees, please contact the person listed above.

Cathy Shuman
City of Monticello
505 Walnut Street
Monticello, MN 55362



Message from the Editor

Please send me any news for our newsletter: job openings, ads related to government finance, career moves, committee updates, or other noteworthy items. You are encouraged to submit general items of interest in any area of government finance. 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.



Cathy Shuman, City of Monticello
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Monticello MN 55362
Phone: 763-271-3204
Fax: 763-295-4404

SAVE THE DATE!

MnGFOA Curling Event
Friday, February 19, 2010

CAFR Training
Wednesday, March 17, 2010

GFOA National Conference 2010
Atlanta, Georgia
June 6-9, 2010

MnGFOA Annual Conference 2010
Alexandria, Minnesota
September 21-23, 2010