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MINNESOTA GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION  
**MnGFOA NEWSLETTER**

January 2005

*Excellence and Leadership in Government Finance*

[www.mngfoa.org](http://www.mngfoa.org)

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## Message from the President

By Tom Pepper

Happy 2005 to you! May your New Year's resolutions last infinitely longer than mine!

With the New Year comes a new role for each MNGFOA officer. As Robin Roland assumes the Treasurer's duties, she bumps the rest of us to the next step along the way. Greg Sticha moves to Secretary and Chris Miller becomes President-Elect. Lori Webster remains on the committee as Past President, which leaves 2004 Past President Tom "Waldo" Kelly as the one who gets bumped off the board. But Waldo, as you know, always pops up somewhere in the picture, and this year it will be as co-chair of the Conference Committee (round 2 for him) ... a more dedicated servant you will not find.

Also joining us on the Executive Committee as at-large appointments this year are Ruth Wipper, Accounting Supervisor at the City of St. Cloud, and Lynn Cornwell of Wells Fargo. Bonnie Burton, Finance Director at the City of Shorewood, serving as GFOA State Representative for 2005 and 2006, is on the committee as well. It all adds up to a great group of people who intend to do their best to assure MNGFOA continues to be valuable to you!

The 2005 standing committee chairs and vice-chairs share that same dedication to MNGFOA, and I'm proud to be serving with them. My thanks to Sue Iverson (Conference Co-chair), Jylan Johnson (Education Chair), Cindy Rollins (Education Vice-chair), Michelle Pietrick (Program Chair), Joe Huss (Program Vice-chair), Larry Jacobson (Social Chair), and Tonya Weinert (Social Vice-chair).

While we all have new roles this year, this isn't the first President's Message with my name on the by-line. As you know, with Lori Webster's illness, I've had to fill in for a few months. This month, I've delivered the *news* about MNGFOA's new faces, but I'm going to let Lori fill in for me with the real *message*. Even though we're a little past the holidays, her message on her December 9 Caringbridge page remains timely for all of us:

*Don't get caught up in the hustle and bustle this Christmas season - please take time out to share a special hug or tell those special people in your life just how much you love them! Peace, Lori*



## January Meeting



Date: Wednesday, January 19, 2005  
Location: Minneapolis Sheraton 4 Points  
Speaker: Charlie Weaver, Executive Director of the MN Business Partnership  
Topic: Perspectives on the 2005 Legislative Session and Minnesota's Business Priorities  
Meal: Bow-Tie Pasta Primavera  
Time: 11:30 a.m. – Welcome and Program  
12:15 p.m. – Lunch & Business Mtg  
1:00 p.m. – Executive Committee Mtg  
Cost: \$15.00

**Reservations:** You may leave your reservation with Robin Roland at the City of Farmington at 651-463-1880 or on our website at [www.mngfoa.org](http://www.mngfoa.org) by Thursday, January 13, 2005. (Vegetarian meal choice is available.)

# Committee

## Executive Committee Update

### About Our Speaker ...

Charlie Weaver is executive director of the Minnesota Business Partnership, a non-profit, non-partisan public policy organization composed of 100 chief executive officers representing Minnesota's leading employers.

Prior to joining the Partnership in November, 2003, Weaver served as chief of staff for Governor Tim Pawlenty during his first year in office. In this capacity, Weaver helped assemble the Pawlenty administration, craft a state budget policy to bridge a projected \$4.5 billion shortfall, and coordinated the legislative strategy to implement the governor's agenda. As former Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Weaver led a diverse department of 1,900 employees and managed an annual department budget of over \$254 million. Prior to his appointment as Public Safety Commissioner, Weaver served as a Criminal Prosecutor in Anoka County.

His public service career started with his election in 1988 to the Minnesota House of Representatives, where he served until 1998. Weaver attended the University of Oregon and graduated in 1981 Phi Beta Kappa with a degree in Political Science. He then attended the University of Minnesota Law School, graduating with honors in 1984. He joined the law firm of Lindquist and Vennum where he represented clients in a wide variety of legal matters, ranging from civil litigation to employment law.

### 2005 Meeting Dates

#### Monthly Meetings:

January 19	February 16	March 16
April 20	May 18	[no June mtg]

Dates for the second half of 2005 have not been established as yet.

#### Annual Conferences:

GFOA	San Antonio, TX	June 26-29
MnGFOA	Alexandria, MN	Sept 21-23

At the December 15 meeting, the minutes of the November 17 meeting were approved. Highlights of those minutes include:

- Approval of the check registers and Treasurer's Report for October. Greg reported that revenues and expenditures for the year continued as expected.
- The Executive Committee agreed to create a Membership Services Review Task Force to review the survey results, explore potential enhancements to member services, and submit recommendations to the Executive Committee at a future date. The Task Force will be chaired by former president Lori Johnson, and will include representation from standing committees along with members from both the metro and non-metro areas.
- A contract was approved to continue holding the monthly meetings at the FourPoints Hotel. Meeting dates were secured for January-May, 2005.
- The Executive Committee agreed to eliminate the College Connection Committee, as its original charge of purchasing an exhibit booth, creating promotional materials and ensuring that areas colleges and universities were included on the mailing list had been completed.



## A Special Note...

In late December, the MNGFOA received a thank you note from the family of Marlin Amundson. The note reads:

Members of the Minnesota GFOA,

Thank you for the lovely arrangement of flowers that you sent for Marlin's funeral. The flowers were a nice tribute from his peers and reminded us of the beauty that exists even in the saddest times. Thank you, also, to those of you who attended the visitation and/or funeral. It is a comfort to know you care.

With sincere appreciation for your kindness,  
The family of Marlin Amundson

We'll miss you Marlin.

## 2005 Executive Board Members

President	Tom Pepper City of Eagan	651-675-5017
President-Elect	Chris Miller City of Roseville	651-792-7031
Secretary	Greg Sticha City of Minnetonka	952-939-8254
Treasurer	Robin Roland City of Farmington	651-463-1880
Past President	Lori Webster City of Hastings	651-480-2352
At-Large	Ruth Wipper City of St. Cloud	320-650-3377
At-Large	Lynn Cornwell Wells Fargo	612-667-9874
State Rep.	Bonnie Burton City of Shorewood	952-474-3236

## Introducing the New Committee Chairs for 2005:

Conference	Sue Iverson Tom Kelly	952-467-1807 651-429-5827
Education	Jylan Johnson Cindy Rollins	952-443-2640 952-563-4702
Program	Michelle Pietrick Joe Huss	715-381-4304 763-717-2677
Social	Larry Jacobson Tonya Weinert	763-509-5320 651-430-6044

If you have any questions, want to help out, or have suggestions for the Executive Board or for any of the committees for 2005, please feel free to give them a call.

## Membership Renewals

You should have received your MnGFOA membership renewal form via postal mail by now. To be included in the 2005 membership directory, fill out the application form and mail with your payment by January 31, 2005 to Robin Roland, City of Farmington, 325 Oak Street, Farmington, MN 55024 or call her at 651-463-1880 if you did not receive an application.



## Message from the Editor

Greetings everyone! It is my pleasure to serve as the editor for this year. I'm not sure I can match the entertainment value that Tom P. brought to you each and every month, but I'll certainly try. Tom just seemed to have that Jerry Seinfeld/Dr. Seuss quality that well . . . is a gift really. My entertainment-challenged mind will have to suffice.

As always, if you have any job openings, career moves, or any items of note, please forward them to me by the 20<sup>th</sup> of this month so I can put it in the next newsletter.

Thanks,

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