



MINNESOTA GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

MnGFOA NEWSLETTER

January 2008

Excellence and Leadership in Government Finance

www.mngfoa.org

Message from the President

A New Year; a new presidential term. And because, as Brian Lamb reminded us at our December meeting, “I can’t do it all myself” there’s a new cast of characters. These are the people who have agreed to contribute their time and effort in the coming year.

The “new” executive committee this year includes Larry Jacobson (President Elect), Cathy Shuman (Secretary) Ron Hedberg (Treasurer), Bruce DeJong (State Representative), Charlie Hansen (at large member) and Shelly Eldridge (at large member). Committee chairs for 2008 will be Julie Vogel (Conference), Sue Iverson (Education), Mark Beer (Technology), Darin Nelson (Program) and Judy Moll (Social). This very dedicated group of individuals will be working hard on your behalf in the coming year to continue a tradition of exceptional programs and support for all our members.

We say thank you for a job well done to the departing at large members and committee chairs: Fran Windschitl, Joe Rigdon, Cory Kampf, Cindy Rollins, Joel Merry and Michele Pietrick. They spent many long hours in service to the organization this last year and we truly appreciate them.

What can I say about our Past President Greg Sticha? Both literally and figuratively, I have some pretty big shoes to fill. Greg’s organizational leadership for the last year has been everything he committed to in his first presidential message last January. He led the efforts for enhancing our website which will come to fruition in the next month. He dedicated his time and attention to promoting our group (and public finance) to students pursuing their accounting degrees. And I can’t even begin to follow his lead in the social arena! Thank you Greg for everything you have done for MnGFOA!

The theme for 2008 is simple – we are here for each other. Minnesota GFOA was founded by a group who knew they were stronger and better together rather than as individuals. Each of them “had each other’s back”. They knew they could count on their colleagues to support them. They didn’t have to go it alone. We continue that tradition today.

Further, I would like to recognize the contributions of our Associate members during 2008. The strength of our association is due in great part to the commitment of these folks. They support us in many ways – least of all financially. They are our friends and supporters: our auditors and advisors. They do a million different things for their fellow members without fanfare or fees. We should recognize them and their dedication to our organization.

Minnesota GFOA has an incredible history – both serious and fun. We work hard and we play hard. We learn from each other, console each other and celebrate each other. We take pride in our profession. We seek “Excellence and Leadership in Government Finance”. We have each other’s back.

I’m honored to serve as your president this year. Have a great month!

Hope to see you at the monthly meeting.

Robin





January Meeting

DATE: Wednesday, January 16, 2008
LOCATION: Minneapolis Sheraton Four Points
TOPIC: Minnesota Legal Compliance Update
SPEAKER: Mark Kerr
 Office of the State Auditor
TIME: 11:30 Meeting & Program
 12:15 Luncheon
LUNCH: Parmesan Chicken
COST: \$15



Reservations: Please register on the MnGFOA website (www.mngfoa.org), send an e-mail to Ron Hedberg (rhedberg@cottage-grove.org), or leave a voice mail for Ron at 651-458-2832 by Thursday January 10th.

Speaker Bio ~

Mark Kerr has served as Assistant Legal Counsel with the Office of the State Auditor since 1994. Prior to joining the Office of the State Auditor, he practiced law for three years with the law firm Ratwik, Roszak and Maloney, P.A., representing school districts and other local units of government. Mr. Kerr graduated from the William Mitchell College of Law, *magna cum laude*, and served as judicial clerk for Hon. D.D. Wozniak, Chief Judge, Minnesota Court of Appeals.

2008 Meeting Dates

Monthly Meetings

February 20
 March 19, CAFR Review
 April 16
 May 21
 No June Meeting
 July 16 – Quarterly Training
 August 20
 No September Meeting
 October 15
 November 19 –Quarterly Training
 December 10



Annual Conferences:

GFOA – Fort Lauderdale, FL June 15-18, 2008
 MnGFOA – Alexandria, MN Sept. 24-26, 2008

Committee

Executive Committee Update

The Executive Committee met in December and took the following actions:

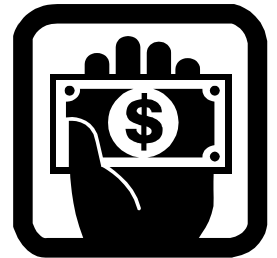
- Approved November meeting minutes.
- Approved check register and treasurer's report for November operations.
- Approved the 2008 budget.
- Approved a motion to make a zero dollar contribution to GASB for 2007.

Membership Renewals

You should have received your MnGFOA membership renewal for in the mail by now. To be included in the 2008 membership directory, fill out the application form and mail with your payment by January 31, 2008 to Ron Hedberg, City of Cottage Grove, 7516 80th Street S., Cottage Grove, MN 55016. If you did not receive an application, they are available at the MnGFOA web site.

Newsletter Mailing

To help save printing and postage costs, you can receive the newsletter by e-mail. Mark your membership renewal form that you would like to receive it by e-mail.



Ads for the Membership Directory

Mailings have gone out to associate members for advertising exposure in the 2008 membership directory. You get year-round exposure directly to your customers.

Don't miss the opportunity to promote your company and support MnGFOA at the same time. Rates for ads are:

| | |
|-----------|----------|
| ¼ page | \$300.00 |
| ½ page | \$450.00 |
| Full page | \$600.00 |

Send your camera ready ad and payment before Friday February 15, 2008 to: Ron Hedberg, City of Cottage Grove, 7516 80th Street S., Cottage Grove, MN 55016.

2008 Executive Board Members

| | | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------|
| President | Robin Roland City of Farmington | 651-463-1880 |
| PresidentElect | Larry Jacobson City of Robbinsdale | 763-531-1215 |
| Secretary | Cathy Shuman City of Monticello | 763-271-3204 |
| Treasurer | Ron Hedberg City of Cottage Grove | 651-458-2832 |
| Past President | Greg Sticha City of Chanhassen | 952-227-1149 |
| At-Large | Charlie Hanson City of Crystal | 763-531-1110 |
| At-Large | Shelly Eldridge Ehlers & Associates | 651-697-8504 |
| State Rep. | Bruce DeJong City of St. Louis Park | 952-924-2511 |

December Toy Drive

The Social Committee wants to thank everyone who brought toys for the 10th Annual Toys-4-Tots program. Christmas was brightened for many children by your generous donations. We had a real good contribution to the toy drive. We filled up Larry's trunk, the back seat and the passenger seat full of toys. The KARE 11 crew assisting kept saying, "Oh wow, there's more". In addition, checks for \$80 we donated also.

New Committee Chairs for 2008:

| | | |
|------------|--------------|--------------|
| Conference | Julie Vogel | 952-563-4930 |
| Education | Sue Iverson | 651-634-5132 |
| Program | Darin Nelson | 952-939-8254 |
| Social | Judy Moll | 651-747-2759 |
| Technology | Mark Beer | 763-717-4011 |

If you have any questions, want to help out, or have suggestions for the Executive Board or for any of the committees for 2008, please feel free to give them a call.

Message from the Editor

The New Year brings a new editor to your newsletter. I look forward to receiving any items you would like to have included. Send your job openings, ads, career moves, or other items of note to me by the 20th of each month and they will go in the next newsletter. Thanks!

Larry Jacobson, City of Robbinsdale
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Robbinsdale, MN 55422-2280
Phone: 763-531-1215
Email: Ljacobson@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us



Larry Jacobson
City of Robbinsdale
4100 Lakeview Avenue N
Robbinsdale, MN 55422-2280

HAPPY NEW YEAR

The text 'HAPPY NEW YEAR' is written in a bold, red, sans-serif font with a black outline and a slight 3D effect. The words are arranged in a slightly curved line. Two yellow, multi-pointed starburst graphics are placed around the text: one above the 'NEW' and one below the 'HAPPY'.

