



# MnGFOA Newsletter

JANUARY 2012

*Excellence and Leadership in Government Finance*

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## President's Message

By: Jessie Hart

Happy 2012 to each and every one of you.

The New Year brings new roles for the MnGFOA officers. Darin Nelson is the newest member as Treasurer. This moves each of us up another level. Dan Jordet moves into Secretary, Cory Kampf assumes the role of President Elect and Ron Hedberg makes his last appearance during 2012 as Past President. With that, Cathy Shuman has left the board after serving five years. Cathy is not going far and hopes to stay very active helping with the new web site design while serving on

the Technology Committee.

Also joining the Executive Committee as at-large appointments are Josh Feldman from South St. Paul and Sue Moses from US Bank. Robin Roland from Cottage Grove will be serving as State Representative with Darin's appointment as Treasurer.

Standing Committee Chairs for 2012 are Dawn Koenig (Conference), Diane Sweet (Program), Greg Sticha (Education), Lynn Cornwell (Social), Joe Rueb (Technology), Darin Nelson (Student

Conference) and Chris Miller (Selection).

Make 2012 the year that you become more active, join a standing committee and make a difference.

In closing, I would like to thank those that served on the Executive Board and Standing Committees during 2011. In addition to Cathy Shuman, many thanks to Sue Kotchevar and Peggy Moeller who served as the 2011 At-Large members and ALL committee members.

Each of you made and continues to make a difference.

## December Toys for Tots Collection

2011 marked the 14<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the MnGFOA's participation in the Toys for Tots collection organized by the Social Committee at the December meeting.

Over the years our members have contributed generously with toys and cash providing many children a happier and brighter

Christmas that may have not been realized without our member's generosity. This year was no exception.

Pseudo Santa Paul Steinman of the Social Committee delivered 53 toys and \$240 in cash donations to the KARE 11 location the evening of December 15<sup>th</sup>. As usual the donation was very well

received and appreciated.

In Paul's own words, with sentiments expressed by all members of MnGFOA:

*"Thanks Social Committee and nice job by everyone."*



## January 12<sup>th</sup> Luncheon Meeting

**DATE:** Wednesday, January 18, 2012

**LOCATION:** Ramada Plaza Minneapolis  
Itasca Room

**TOPIC:** To be Announced

**SPEAKER:** To be Announced

**TIME:** 11:30 am – Speaker  
12:00 pm – Luncheon

**LUNCH:** Minnesota Meatloaf

**COST:** \$15.00

*Due to a last minute cancelation of the speaker for January, the Program Committee is arranging a new speaker. A list serv with topic and speaker will be sent in the next week.*

**Reservations:** It is preferred that you register on the MnGFOA website ([www.mngfoa.org](http://www.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 Darin Nelson at [nelsond@ci.fridley.mn.us](mailto:nelsond@ci.fridley.mn.us) or leave him a voice mail at (763) 572-3520 NO LATER THAN Friday, January 13, 2012. Please remember to pre-register for the luncheon to provide that enough meals are ordered and tables set up for the meeting. Thank you for your cooperation.

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### MONTHLY PROGRAM

Do you have topic ideas for monthly meetings? Join the Program Committee and help plan and organize upcoming monthly luncheon speakers. Contact Program Committee Chair Diane Sweet at [diane.sweet@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:diane.sweet@ci.stpaul.mn.us) for more information.

## 2012 IMPORTANT DATES

- January 18, 2012 – Monthly Luncheon, Ramada Plaza Minneapolis
- January 20, 2012 – Curling Event, St. Paul Curling Club
- February 15, 2012 – Monthly Luncheon, Ramada Plaza Minneapolis
- March 21, 2012 – CAFR Review Session and Monthly Luncheon, (location TBD)
- April 18, 2012 – Monthly Luncheon, Ramada Plaza Minneapolis
- May 16, 2012 – Monthly Luncheon, Ramada Plaza Minneapolis
- June 10 – 13, 2012 – National GFOA Conference, Chicago, IL
- June 20, 2012 – Monthly Luncheon, Ramada Plaza Minneapolis
- July 18, 2012 – Monthly Luncheon, Ramada Plaza Minneapolis
- August 15, 2012 – Monthly Luncheon, Ramada Plaza Minneapolis
- September 19 – 21, 2012 – Annual MnGFOA Conference, Alexandria, MN
- October 17, 2012 – Monthly Luncheon, Radisson Hotel Roseville
- October 2012 – Quarterly Training (topic and location TBD)
- November 14, 2012 – Extended Monthly Luncheon, Ramada Plaza Minneapolis
- November 14, 2012 – Annual Food Drive in conjunction with November Luncheon
- December 12, 2012 – Monthly Luncheon, Ramada Plaza Minneapolis
- December 12, 2012 – Annual Toys for Tots Collection in conjunction with December Luncheon

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### CAFR REVIEW MARCH 2012

In order to create the most informative CAFR review sessions, Peggy Moeller is asking cities, towns and counties to submit copies of CAFR comments received from the 2010 Annual Audited Financial Statements to be used as examples for the sessions. Please submit comments and reports electronically to: Peggy Moeller, HLB Tautges Redpath Ltd., at [pmoeller@hlbtr.com](mailto:pmoeller@hlbtr.com).



## Certified Public Finance Officer (CPFO)

The Certified Public Finance Officers Program (Certification Program) of the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) is a broad educational self-study program designed to verify knowledge in the disciplines of government finance. The Certification Program is governed by the Council on Certification. Technical and administrative support for the program is provided by Radford University's Governmental and Nonprofit Assistance Center.

To earn the designation of Certified Public Finance Officer (CPFO), **candidates must pass a series of five examinations** covering the major disciplines of public finance.

**A candidate has seven years in which to successfully complete the program.** Once earned, the CPFO designation is maintained by participating in 30 hours of continuing professional education each year.

While GFOA certifies that an individual who passes one or more of GFOA's certification

examinations demonstrates certain competencies, GFOA withholds an opinion as to the capabilities of any individual to successfully perform in a given position. GFOA encourages prospective employers and employees to share information regarding the requirements of the position and the capabilities of the candidate in a forthright manner to promote sound employment and professional decisions.

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

Train without the travel with GFOA's Internet Offerings – ALL courses take place from 1:00 to 3:00 pm (CT) and will earn you 2 CPE credits with your participation. The registration fee for each seminar is \$85.00 for Active/Associate GFOA Members and \$160 for Nonmembers. Upcoming training events include the following:

- How to Achieve a Sustainable Pension Plan – January 12
- Gaining Acceptance of LT Financial Planning – January 18
- Practical Guidance on How to Report Fund Balance & Net Position – January 19
- Performance Management Trends: Case Studies – January 31

## Spring 2012 CPFO Examination Locations

### MARCH 7, 2012 FOREST LAKE

The City of Forest Lake will be hosting a spring 2012 CPFO examination on Wednesday, March 7, 2012 from 1:00 to 4:30 pm at Forest Lake City Hall. For information about the exam site, contact Ellen Paulseth, Finance Director, City of Forest Lake, by phone at (651) 209-9725 or email at [ellie.paulseth@ci.forest-lake.mn.us](mailto:ellie.paulseth@ci.forest-lake.mn.us).

Exam Site:  
City of Forest Lake  
City Hall  
220 North Lake Street,  
Forest Lake, MN 55025

### MARCH 9, 2012 CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

The City of Bloomington will be hosting a spring 2012 CPFO examination on Friday, March 9, 2012 from 8:30 am to 12:00 pm at Bloomington Civic Plaza. For information about the exam site, contact Cindy Rollins, Budget Manager, City of Bloomington, by email at [crollins@ci.bloomington.mn.us](mailto:crollins@ci.bloomington.mn.us).

Exam Site:  
City of Bloomington  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor – Haeg Conference Room  
1800 West Old Shakopee Road  
Bloomington, MN 55431

Visit [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org) for additional information and to register for these and any other training opportunities offered by GFOA.

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*For further information about the examination, please see the GFOA website at [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org).*

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**SAVE THE DATE:**

Cinco de Mayo Happy Hour – May 3, 2012

Minnesota Twins Game – July 19, 2012

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**MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS**

You should be receiving your MnGFOA renewal notice in the mail anytime now. You can also complete the renewal process online on the MnGFOA website. Renewals and payments are due by January 31, 2012.

If you choose to not renew online you can mail the renewal form with check made payable to MnGFOA to the 2012 Treasurer as follows: Darin Nelson, City of Fridley, 6431 University Avenue NE, Fridley, MN 55432. Darin can be reached by email at [nelsond@ci.fridley.mn.us](mailto:nelsond@ci.fridley.mn.us) or phone at (763) 572-3520.

**January Curling Event**

Take some time off to join us for the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Curling Event at the St. Paul Curling Club on Friday, January 20, 2012 with room for up to 40 people.

This is a great opportunity to try this sport and when you see it in the Winter Olympics you will have a better understanding of the sport and maybe even just get hooked and want to join a team . . . or even try out for the 2014 Olympics!

Curling instruction will begin promptly at 12:15

pm and then we are free to enjoy the sport of curling from 1 – 3 pm. We must leave the St. Paul Curling Club by 3:30 pm.

The cost of the event will be \$35.00 and is sponsored by the MnGFOA and hosted by the Social Committee.

**Important Notes:** Please bring and carry in clean shoes to wear on the ice (recommendation: tennis shoes). Dress for 40 degrees – including gloves or mittens.

**You must register and submit payment by January 6, 2012.**

Please check the MnGFOA website for more information and to register. You can contact Tonya Kusmirek at [tlkusmirek@hotmail.com](mailto:tlkusmirek@hotmail.com).

The St. Paul Curling Club is located at 470 Selby Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55102. For directions, go to the “About” tab on their website at [www.stpaulcurlingclub.org](http://www.stpaulcurlingclub.org).

**Ad Hoc Committee – GASB Pronouncements**

The MnGFOA Executive Board has formed an Ad Hoc Committee on GASB Pronouncements to comment on the various pronouncements issued by the GASB for comment. The Ad Hoc Committee would study current pronouncements and present a recommendation for the Board to consider providing an official position of the MnGFOA and any approved language would be submitted during the comment period. David Mol of HLB Tautges Redpath has volunteered to chair this sub-

committee and coordinate the efforts of all members interested in participating.

On November 29<sup>th</sup>, the GASB approved the issuance of a Preliminary Views document addressing “Economic Condition: Financial Projections.” The objective of this proposed standard is to provide information regarding fiscal sustainability. As such, GASB is recommending that financial projections of major inflows of resources and major outflows of resources be a part of a government’s CAFR.

The MnGFOA’s Executive Committee has recommended that our organization submit a response to GASB’s Preliminary Views document. The comment deadline is anticipated to be February 29, 2012.

If you are interested in being a part of a group to draft a response, please contact David Mol at:

(651) 407-5803 or [dmol@hlbtr.com](mailto:dmol@hlbtr.com)

Thanks for considering joining this important group.



## In Memory . . . Dale L. Eggenberger

Dale L. Eggenberger passed away on December 3, 2011. Dale was long time member of MnGFOA and served as President in 1983.

Dale served most of his career as the Finance Director for the City of Minnetonka. He retired from Minnetonka in May 2004 after 32 years with the City.

Dale was nominated by the Finance Department staff in Minnetonka for the "Spirit of Minnetonka" Award in January 2004.

Dale provided outstanding leadership both internally and externally for the City

of Minnetonka.

Dale won the MnGFOA Thomas J. Moran Award in September 1999. This award is given to recognize extraordinary service rendered by an individual to advance the quality of public financial administration, to promote the development and education of governmental accounting and accounting personnel, and to promote high standards in the field of governmental finance in Minnesota.

In addition to serving on the Executive Board for 5 years, he served on many

committees and served as the State Representative for the State of Minnesota to carry the concerns of local finance directors to the National GFOA.

Dale received the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting for 19 years and also received an Award for Excellence in 1990 from the National GFOA.

Dale's many accomplishments, his passion for his field, and his attention to detail supports the fact that:

*"Quality was his nature."*

Finance Department staff included this in the nomination:

*"We feel that Dale exemplifies Teamwork, Innovations, Above & Beyond, Leadership and Exceptional Customer Service currently and throughout his previous 32 years with the City, which definitely qualifies him for the Spirit of Minnetonka Award."*

## Roger Larson – Retires after 28+ Years in Government Finance

Roger started his government career as a temporary for the City of Richfield. He filled in for the UB Clerk who was on medical leave for 3 months. Little did he know that at that point it would blossom into a 28 year career? Having migrated from the private sector where lay-offs were common, he liked the stability of City government.

On his final day, he mentioned to the Finance Director that he would be interested in working in City Government and asked if she ran into a job that he might be qualified to give him a call. A month later she advised

Roger to apply for the Finance Officer/Treasurer position at the City of Excelsior, a job that he held for 5 ½ years.

Excelsior gave Roger a great opportunity to work while learning how government functions. He developed skills through budget presentations; working on financing construction projects; issuing debt; annual audit; TIF; and interacting with various City Departments.

And then Roger was hired as the first Finance Director for the City of St. Anthony Village. His goal at the time was to work in smaller-medium sized city for 5 – 7 years and move

up the corporate ladder. Along the way something very special happened. Roger loved his job, enjoyed his co-workers and recognized what a special community St. Anthony was to be a part of.

Twenty two years later, Roger's thoughts have turned to taking life a little easier and spending more time with his three grandchildren.

In retirement Roger plans to continue his passion for hunting, fishing, trap-shooting, playing his guitar, attending festivals and dancing with his wife into the wee hours of the night.

Winters will find him in California with his granddaughter and summers will be centered around his grandsons. There are also those trips on the bucket list: train ride that visits 4 national parks and another that goes through the Canadian Rockies.

In his spare time he will mentor young men recently release from prison that are committed to NOT returning.

Roger says: *"I have been truly blessed having been a part of MnGFOA. My best to all of you and I challenge the next generation to improve on the accomplishments of those before you."*



## 2012 OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

### President

Jessie Hart  
White Bear Township  
[jessie.hart@ci.white-bear-township.mn.us](mailto:jessie.hart@ci.white-bear-township.mn.us)  
651.747.2760

### President Elect

Cory Kampf  
City of Brooklyn Park  
[cory.kampf@brooklynpark.org](mailto:cory.kampf@brooklynpark.org)  
763.493.8150

### Secretary

Dan Jordet  
City of Brooklyn Center  
[djordet@ci.brooklyn-center.mn.us](mailto:djordet@ci.brooklyn-center.mn.us)  
763.569.3345

### Treasurer

Darin Nelson  
City of Fridley  
[nelsond@ci.fridley.mn.us](mailto:nelsond@ci.fridley.mn.us)  
763.572.3520

### Past President

Ron Hedberg  
City of Apple Valley  
[rhedberg@ci.apple-valley.mn.us](mailto:rhedberg@ci.apple-valley.mn.us)  
952.953.2540

### At-Large

Josh Feldman  
City of South St. Paul  
[jfeldman@southstpaul.org](mailto:jfeldman@southstpaul.org)  
651.554.3207

### At-Large

Sue Moses  
US Bank  
[susan.moses@usbank.com](mailto:susan.moses@usbank.com)  
651.466.8601

### State Representative

Robin Roland  
City of Cottage Grove  
[rroland@cottage-grove.org](mailto:rroland@cottage-grove.org)  
651.458.2832

## Job Changes

The City of Savage recently welcomed Julie Nordmeier as their Assistant Finance Director. Julie started work with Savage on December 1, 2011. Julie served as the Accountant/Accounting Coordinator for the City of Northfield for the past 7 years.

CONGRATS JULIE!

The City of St. Anthony Village welcomes Shelly Rueckert as the newly appointed Finance Director. Shelly starts in early-January. She worked in the City of Little Canada for the past 10 years and served as the City's first "official" Finance Director.

CONGRATS SHELLY!

## Message from the Editor

This is YOUR newsletter. If you wish to share items of interest with the membership please send them to me. Send job openings, career moves, retirements, or other items of note by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month for inclusion in the next newsletter. Thanks!

### Contact Information:

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