



MINNESOTA GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

MnGFOA NEWSLETTER

July 2007

Excellence and Leadership in Government Finance

www.mngfoa.org

Message from the President

By Greg Sticha

As some of you may know I am an umpire in the summer months. It is something I have been doing now for almost 15 years. During that time I have seen and heard just about everything you could imagine on a ball field. I have even been called many things from "Four Eyes" to others I can't mention in here. While doing this I have gotten to meet all kinds of people and actually been able to learn a few things from some of these people along the way.

So your probably asking what does this have to do with Government Finance and why is he boring me with this?? Some of you may have even already stopped reading, and some of you may have stopped reading after the January newsletter. I actually have a point.....

While attending the national conference you meet all kinds of people as well, and there is a lot to be learned from them. While none of them called me "Four Eyes" or names even worse (that I know of), I was able to meet and talk to all kinds of different people from around the country. Whether it was attending one of the many terrific sessions or at one of the social events, the national conference was (as always) a great place to hear fresh ideas and network with people from around the country. The conference in Anaheim was that for me again this year, and I would encourage as many of you as possible to attend next year's conference in Ft. Lauderdale to experience not only the amazing training events and sessions, but take an opportunity to meet some of your colleagues from around the country.

Just a reminder that July's meeting is a quarterly training event to be held at the Sheraton Four Points. (See the next item.) I hope everyone is having a great summer!!!!

July Meeting

* Quarterly Training *



DATE: Wednesday, July 18, 2007

LOCATION: Four Points Sheraton, Minneapolis
(Beware of road construction on I35)

TOPIC: Portfolio Strategy: Managing in Changing Environments

TIME: 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

LUNCH: Asian Chicken Salad, Breadsticks,
Strawberry Rhubarb Pie

COST: \$80 for Seminar
\$16 for Lunch only option.

A brochure and on-line registration are available on the Government Training Services website www.mngts.org.

Please remember that you **can not use** the MNGFOA website to register for this training or the lunch option.

Join your GFOA friends after the July 18th quarterly training for Happy Hour at Granite City Food & Brewery, 851 Rosedale Center. East side of mall by the new AMC theaters. 4-6 p.m. \$1.00 off beer, wine and cocktails.

2007 Meeting Dates

Monthly Meetings:

August 15 – Meeting on the St. Croix
September – Annual conference
October 17 – monthly meeting at Sheraton Four Points
November 14 – Quarterly training

Annual Conferences:

MnGFOA – Alexandria, MN Sept. 19-21
GFOA – Fort Lauderdale, FL June 15-18, 2008

The Times They are a Changin'

- Congratulations to Eric Willette, formerly of the League of Minnesota Cities (LMC) as he becomes the Director of Property Tax Research at the State of Minnesota Department of Revenue. He started his new position on June 27th.
- Good luck to Victoria Holthaus, Finance Director of the City of Richmond as she moves to Clearwater/Clear Lake and the Clearwater/Clear Lake Joint Sewer Authority.
- Congratulations to Teresa Walters, the new Finance Director in Waseca. Teresa was formerly with the City of Bloomington. She started at Waseca on June 11th.
- Welcome home to Jonathan North, formerly of Moody's Investors Services in Chicago, now with Ehlers & Associates in Roseville. Jon grew up in the St. Paul area and has recently moved to Stillwater. We are glad you're back!
- Happy Retirement to Rosemary Masloski of Ehlers & Associates. Rosemary has been a tireless supporter of Minnesota GFOA for many years. Our annual conference committee will never be the same. Thank you for everything and best wishes from all of us!

SUMMER

Committee

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Executive Committee Update

The Executive committee did not meet in June.

However, two Lori Webster Advanced Government Finance Institute Scholarships were awarded to Sharon Kutzke, Finance Director, Ham Lake and Tom Kelly, Finance Officer, White Bear Township.

ATTENTION!

Annual Golf Outing. Thursday, August 30, 2007 at Noon at Oak Marsh Golf Course. See the attached flyer!



Annual Conference Advertising

The 2007 Annual Conference will be at Arrowwood again this year, September 19 – 21, 2007. The theme this year is “Riding the Highway of Change.” Associate members are invited to achieve maximum results by placing an advertisement in the annual conference book. Your ad will be seen by hundreds of finance officers and other finance professionals and will help to defray the costs of the conference for all members. The advertising opportunities and related costs are as follows:

¼ page	\$225
½ page	\$350
Full page	\$475

Email a “clean” black and white copy of your ad to George Eilertson at geilertson@northlandsecurities.com by **August 15, 2007**. If you placed an ad in the 2006 program, we have your ad on file. If you would like to re-run the same ad please indicate. The quality of your program ad will only be as good as what you send us. Acceptable ads will be the appropriate size and acceptable in Adobe (.pdf); MS Word (.doc); MS Publisher or MS PowerPoint (.ppt).

Make your check payable to “MnGFOA” and forward it to:

George Eilertson, Sr. Vice President
Northland Securities, Inc.
45 South Seventh Street - #2500
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402

We are looking forward to a great conference and hope to see you at Arrowwood this fall.

“Riding the Highway of Change— Leading the Pack in the Fast Lane of Tomorrow”

Mark your calendars for the 2007 Annual Conference, to be held at Arrowwood Resort and Conference Center in Alexandria from September 19-21. Included in this month’s newsletter are the two registration forms needed, one for the conference and a separate one for the hotel reservation.

Please make sure to send the proper forms and payments to the following:

- Conference registration form along with payment should be mailed to Liz Berger as indicated on the form;
- Hotel reservation form should be faxed or mailed to Arrowwood Resort as indicated on the form.

A tentative agenda of topics and speakers for the conference will be posted on the website. From Wednesday’s opening session to Friday’s closing session you will be educated on a variety of current hot topics in our profession. In addition, the Social Committee has planned evening activities that are sure to provide fun and great networking opportunities for all. Both the Conference and Social Committee look forward to seeing you in Alex.

As plans and speakers are finalized, the agenda and a synopsis of the sessions will be posted on the website to assist you in your planning, along with both registration forms.

If you have any questions about the conference please contact Cory Kampf at: cory.kampf@brooklynpark.org or 763-426-3344, or Julie Vogel at: 952-563-4930 or jvogel@ci.bloomington.mn.us.

JOB POSTINGS

Team Leader Audit Position - Office of the Legislative Auditor

The Minnesota Office of the Legislative Auditor’s Financial Audit Division has a rare opportunity for experienced auditors. The office is seeking applicants for its Team Leader audit position. This leadership role helps guide less experienced auditors in their understanding of audit standards, audit tools and techniques, and assessing audit results, and supervises audit teams.

The office’s Financial Audit Division is a professional, nonpartisan audit office. Its mission is to strengthen accountability and promote good management in government. The division audits state government operations, including the state’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, federal “Single Audit” compliance, and internal control and compliance audits of over 150 state agencies, boards, and commissions. The division has about 40 professional staff.

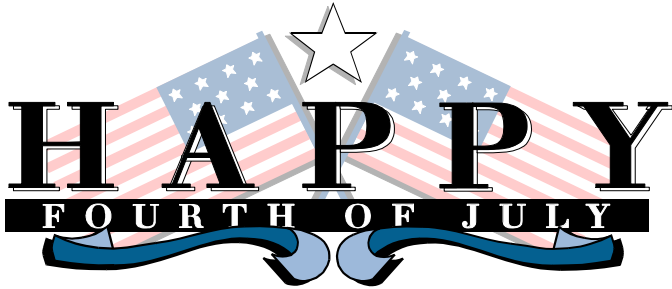
The office is committed to work/life balance. Realistic audit budgets emphasize quality over quantity; overtime is not expected. Travel is less than 10%. The office encourages flexible work schedules and telecommuting. Audit personnel are part of the state’s classified services and receive the full range of state employee benefits, including: 11 paid holidays; 2½ weeks vacation; 2½ weeks sick leave; health, dental, and life insurance; and a defined benefit pension plan.

Applicants must have a bachelor’s or Master’s degree in Accounting, work experience demonstrating the ability to plan and execute audits and supervise audit teams, and a CPA license. Preference will be given to those with advanced database query skills (Access or SQL), financial statement experience, government auditing or accounting experience, or knowledge of state operations and accounting systems.

Submit your letter of interest and resume to:

Eric Jacobson, Business Manager
Office of the Legislative Auditor
140 Centennial Office Building
658 Cedar Street
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Robin Roland
City of Farmington
325 Oak Street
Farmington, MN 55024



Message from the Editor

I recently got an e-mail from a friend and colleague with a barnyard fable about a mouse, a chicken, a pig, a cow and unintended consequences. The moral of the story was: We must keep an eye out for one another and make an extra effort to encourage one another.

This month, from Anaheim to Edina, I have been reminded of the people who watch out for me and encourage me every day.

It's why I think Minnesota GFOA is strong – we have each other's back.

Send your job openings, ads, career moves, or other items of note to me by the 20th of this month and I'll put them in the next newsletter.

Thanks to all of you for what you do every day!

Robin Roland
City of Farmington
325 Oak Street
Farmington, MN 55024
651-463-1880
rroland@ci.farmington.mn.us



**MINNESOTA GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
2007 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
“RIDING THE Highway OF Change”**

<u>WHEN:</u>	September 19 – 21, 2007
<u>WHERE:</u>	Arrowwood Resort Alexandria, Minnesota

CONFERENCE [9/19-21/07]	BY	AFTER
<u>REGISTRATION FEE</u>	<u>August 24</u>	<u>August 24</u>
Member	\$ 225.00	\$ 250.00
Non-Member	\$ 285.00	\$ 310.00

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Minnesota GFOA

MAIL OR FAX REGISTRATION/PAYMENT TO: Liz Berger, Accounting Coordinator
City of Minnetonka
14600 Minnetonka Blvd
Minnetonka, MN 55345
Fax (952) 939-8244

Note: Faxed registrations require payment by credit card (MC / Visa only). Please fill out credit card information on bottom of registration form.

LODGING: YOU MUST make separate arrangements by completing the attached lodging registration form for Arrowwood Resort by August 24, 2007. YOU MUST MAIL OR FAX YOUR RESERVATION FORM. Reservations are on a first-come first-served basis and overflow lodging reservations WILL BE made for you by Arrowwood. You are encouraged to make arrangements to share a room.

Townhome rooms are available at the standard room rate. Each bedroom in a townhome unit will be considered a standard room. Please direct any questions regarding townhome assignments to Arrowwood Resort.

Water Park passes will be made available to the conference attendees at a rate of \$5 per day.

REFUND POLICY: All cancellation requests regarding lodging must be directed through Arrowwood Resort and are subject to their policies. Conference cancellation requests received by September 14, 2007 will be refunded in full. All cancellation requests received after September 14, 2007 will be subject to a \$100 charge to cover expenses. Requests for refunds on the conference fee will only be considered up to September 21, 2007.

***THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE INVITES ALL PARTICIPANTS TO DRESS CASUALLY
AND ENJOY THIS YEAR’S CONFERENCE***

REGISTRATION FORM
[PLEASE RETURN WITH PAYMENT]
MINNESOTA GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
2007 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
“RIDING THE Highway OF Change”

YOUR NAME WILL APPEAR ON YOUR NAME TAG AS SUBMITTED BELOW!!!

LAST NAME _____ FIRST NAME _____

POSITION _____

EMPLOYER _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

CONFERENCE [9/19-21/07]

<u>REGISTRATION FEE</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Non-Member</u>	
BY AUGUST 24 TH	\$225.00	\$250.00	_____
AFTER AUGUST 24 TH	\$285.00	\$310.00	_____
	TOTAL PAID REGISTRATION		_____

IS THIS YOUR FIRST MGFOA CONFERENCE? YES NO

IDENTIFY SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS: _____

[SOMEONE WILL CONTACT YOU BY PHONE OR EMAIL REGARDING YOUR NEEDS]

FAXED REGISTRATIONS REQUIRE PAYMENT BY CREDIT CARD

MC / VISA CREDIT CARD NUMBER: _____

EXPIRATION DATE: _____ **CVVS NUMBER:** _____

(3 digit number on back of card)

Signature: _____

MINNESOTA GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
2007 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
“RIDING THE Highway OF Change”
Lodging Reservation Form
September 18-21, 2007

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Company _____

Mr./Mrs./Ms. _____

Street _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Day Phone (____) _____

Special Requests: (i.e. Room accessibility, dietary, etc.)
Explain: _____

All of our lodging is non-smoking.

Method of Payment:

____ Check-Send with form
____ Credit Card - Card Charged Upon Receipt of Form
 Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover accepted.

Card # _____ Exp. _____ / _____

Cardholder's name: _____

Signature: _____

CANCELLATION POLICY

*Cancellations requests received after September 14, 2007,
will be subject to a charge for one-nights lodging plus tax.*

*MGFOA requests that all cancellations be made as soon
as possible to make rooms available for other conference
attendees.*



LODGING SELECTIONS

____ \$102.00 Standard accommodations/ Per night + tax

____ I am willing to stay in Townhome unit, if no
Standard rooms are available at Arrowwood.

____ \$102.00 Townhome room accommodations/Per night+tax

Please select Townhome preference:

____ 3 BR Townhome Unit

____ 4 BR Townhome Unit

____ \$145.00 Suites Per night + tax (Suites are limited)

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____

Total Room Nights: _____

ROOMMATES

**If you are sharing a room or townhome, each
person must complete a separate reservation
form.**

List name(s) of the roommate(s) you've selected:

If you are selecting roommates, reservation forms must
be mailed or faxed together. If not received together,
specific roommate requests cannot be guaranteed.

Overflow lodging reservations will be made for you by
Arrowwood. Once Arrowwood Resort is full, attendees will be
notified where their reservation has been made.

MAIL OR FAX ENTIRE FORM TO:

Arrowwood Resort & Conference Center

2100 Arrowwood Lane NW

Alexandria, MN 56308

FAX: 320-762-0133

Phone: 320-762-1124

****NO RESERVATIONS TAKEN WITHOUT FORM.****

HOTEL CHECK-IN TIME IS 4 P.M.

HOTEL CHECK-OUT TIME IS 11 A.M.



OAK MARSH

MGFOA 2007 GOLF OUTING

Date: Thursday, August 30, 2007

Cost: \$49 per person, includes:
greens fees, golf cart, contests, and prizes.

GPS system including electronic tournament scoring will be used

Place: Oak Marsh Golf Course,
526 Inwood Ave. No., Oakdale, MN 55128
www.wpgolf.com/oakmarsh

Time: Tee times @ **Noon**, - ***A SHOTGUN START***
(A shotgun start is when all golfers start (and hopefully finish) at the same time with each foursome on a different hole.)

This tournament is for golfers of all skill levels. You do not have to be a good golfer to participate. This is a team event. Just come prepared to have a good time!! To promote the social aspect of this event, entries will be grouped in foursomes, mixing skill levels. After golfing, we will meet in the clubhouse area for the presentation of prizes. The registration deadline is Monday August 6, 2007.

We will be having a shotgun start, so all tee times at Noon. Please be at the course at least 30 minutes prior to the tee time. They have a grill available for lunch. If you have any questions, please contact Jim Eichten at Malloy, Montague, Karnowski, Radosevich at 952-545-0424 or Ron Hedberg at the City of Cottage Grove, 651-458-2832, or email, rhedberg@cottage-grove.org.

Golf Outing Registration Form

Name(s) _____

Email: _____

Organization _____

Make checks payable to MGFOA and mail your registration form and payment to:

Average score for 18 holes _____

MMKR
Attn: Jim Eichten
5353 Wayzata Blvd., Suite 410
Minneapolis, MN 55416

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ for _____ golfers