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MINNESOTA GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION  
**MnGFOA NEWSLETTER**

July 2009

*Excellence and Leadership in Government Finance*

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

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## Message from the President

By Larry Jacobson

Finally, the state budget has moved forward. Governor Pawlenty has proposed an unallotment of State Aid to cities and counties to assist in balancing the state budget. His office has also come out with the insight that this may have the impact to increase local property taxes. The cuts are not as deep as they originally proposed in January, however they are certainly substantial.

In any event, the local government budget process for the next few years will have to be viewed in a new light. Service levels and budget priorities will need to be addressed as we work our way through things.

A couple of resource reminders, the League of Minnesota Cities is a valuable site for several items, ([www.lmc.org](http://www.lmc.org)), the national GFOA website has a reference section on Fiscal First Aid ([www.gfoa.org/fiscalfirstaid](http://www.gfoa.org/fiscalfirstaid)) and updated best practices, and Metro Cities has recently updated the Biennial Municipal License and Permit Fee Survey, ([www.MetroCitiesMN.org](http://www.MetroCitiesMN.org)).

The National GFOA conference was this past week and as usual included great general sessions and technical sessions. If you were unable to attend, please remember that that GFOA offers the conference on CD-ROM.

I attended meetings representing the Minnesota GFOA that very insightful. One meeting was organized by the national GFOA for presidents and state representatives from across the county. We were addressed by president-elect Paul Macklem. He shared his plans to promote generation change in the work force as the baby boomers need to bring the X and Y generations forward to lead in government finance. We shared ideas on how our state organizations are operated, various programs that are provided and training activities.

The local presidents from the Midwest states, (Illinois, Wisconsin, Ohio, Missouri and Minnesota) met for breakfast to discuss options on sharing resources and training materials and conferences. All these items will be discussed further to determine if additional benefits can be derived from working together and sharing resources.

I was very proud to see the participation of several of our Minnesota members and some nonmembers. Minnesota is represented on the GFOA Executive board by Pat Born, City of Minneapolis, and Al Rolek, City of Lino Lakes. They both represent our state with knowledge and poise.

All throughout the conference Minnesota was represented, they were moderating sessions: Lori Economy-Schroder (Bloomington), and Pat Born (Minneapolis), or speaking at sessions: Dave MacGillvray (Springsted), Pat Born, (Minneapolis), LeaAnn Stagg (Minneapolis) and Laura Lee Orcutt (Wells Fargo). They all represented the state in an outstanding fashion.

The national conference was a great opportunity to network with financial officials from across our state, our region and across the county.

This months newsletter contains information on the annual conference in September, the National GFOA Training, the annual golf outing and the August meeting on the river.

Larry

# Monthly Meeting

## 2009 Important Dates

**DATE:** Wednesday, July 15, 2009  
**LOCATION:** Ramada Plaza, Minneapolis  
(formerly Sheraton Four Points)  
**TOPIC:** "Tough Times--Tough HR Decisions"  
**SPEAKER:** Lisa Rund, League of MN Cities  
**TIME:** 11:30 am – Speaker  
12:00 pm – Luncheon  
**LUNCH:** Asian Chicken Salad  
**COST:** \$15



**Reservations:** It is preferred that you register on the MnGFOA website ([mngfoa.org](http://mngfoa.org)) – there is a link on the home page to go to register for the luncheon event. You could also send an email to Jessie Hart ([jessie.hart@ci.white-bear-township.mn.us](mailto:jessie.hart@ci.white-bear-township.mn.us)) or leave a voice mail for Jessie at 651.747.2760 no later than Friday, July 10th.

**Topic:** Lisa will enlighten us on various options for workforce reductions – a timely topic for the economic situation that we are facing. Cities are facing difficult budgets and must make difficult decisions related to staff. These decisions can be risky, and cities need to evaluate options and consequences. She will define some common employee cost-saving measures and critical factors to consider.

### **Speaker:**

*Lisa Rund, League of Minnesota Cities*

Lisa Rund is a Human Resources Manager for the League of Minnesota Cities. Lisa manages the League's HR Training program and provides assistance to cities on all types of employment-related issues. Lisa worked in Human Resources at the city level for the eight years prior to joining the League. She has a B.S. in Political Science and Psychology, and an M.B.A. in Human Resources Management.

## MnGFOA WEBSITE ~ CHECK IT OUT!!



Have you seen the new look of the MN GFOA website? Now is the time to check it out! Go to [www.mngfoa.org](http://www.mngfoa.org) and be ready to browse our great new website. You can register for the monthly luncheon, check out previous newsletters, download forms, send a listserv, and so much more.

### MONTHLY MEETINGS/EVENTS:

- July 15, 2009 – Monthly Luncheon, Ramada Plaza Minneapolis
- July 20-24, 2008 – GFOA National Training, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis
- August 19, 2009 – Monthly Luncheon & Boat Cruise at Stillwater
- September 23-25, 2009 – Annual Conference, Alexandria MN
- October 21, 2009 – Monthly Luncheon, Ramada Plaza Minneapolis
- October 2009 – Beginning Governmental Acctg, St Cloud MN
- October 2009 – Advanced Governmental Acctg, Metro Area
- November 18, 2009 – Quarterly Training (topic TBD), Ramada Plaza Minneapolis
- December 9, 2009 – Monthly Luncheon & Holiday Social, Ramada Plaza Minneapolis

PLEASE NOTE – The **Ramada Plaza Minneapolis** is the new affiliation, replacing the Sheraton Four Points effective May 28, 2009. Same place – new name!!

## **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

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## Executive Committee Update

The Executive Committee did not meet this month due to the National Conference.

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 23-25

The 46<sup>th</sup> Annual MnGFOA Conference is scheduled for September 23 to 25, 2009 at Arrowwood Resort and Conference Center in Alexandria. Please see enclosed forms.

- Conference Registration is due by August 28 – send to Liz Berger as indicated on the form. Please use the registration form provided in this newsletter or register online at [www.mngfoa.org](http://www.mngfoa.org) (MC/Visa accepted online).
- Room Reservation must be faxed or mailed to Arrowwood no later than September 18. Enclosed is a room reservation form, which you must use to make your lodging reservation – please make sure to include ALL information requested including roommates.

The 2009 MnGFOA Conference in Alexandria will be a “Whole New Ballgame.” Sessions will range from Nutrition to Ethics to GASB updates and a Legislative Recap. New to our conference this year will be Michael Genito, former Finance Director of Rye, New York, and currently a professor at Pace University. His technical sessions will focus on GASB 54 and some of the performance measurement concepts being considered by GASB. Michael Kutzke will give the opening keynote: “Strategies in an Uncertain World.” A new feature for this year’s conference will be a series of roundtable discussions held for general conversation on investments, taxes, and other topics. Plan on being in Alexandria on September 23, 24 and 25 for education, enlightenment and energy.

## 2009 MnGFOA Golf Outing Registration due July 9



The Annual MnGFOA Golf Outing is booked for July 29 at the Oak Marsh Golf Course in Oakdale. The event will be a shotgun start at

11 a.m. – everyone starts at the same time, so you need to be there on time. All GFOA members are welcome from novice to experienced – it is a great time! Please register by July 9 by sending in the form and \$55 payment to Jim Eichten of MMKR (see form enclosed in this newsletter or available on the website).

## Stillwater Boat Cruise & August Luncheon Meeting – August 19

The August Luncheon Meeting which will be aboard a cruise boat on the St Croix at Stillwater on Wednesday, August 19 with boarding at 11:30 a.m. and cruise from 12 to 2:30 p.m. Check the website and August newsletter for information on the luncheon and speaker.



## 2010 MnGFOA TREASURER SELECTION

The MnGFOA Treasurer Selection Committee is now seeking nominations for the 2010 Treasurer. All members are encouraged to consider making a nomination, and you can nominate yourself.

Officers of the MnGFOA provide direction and ongoing support for the organization. They are vital to keeping the MnGFOA a well-regarded and valuable association to its membership. Please help maintain the high quality of officers by nominating someone who is committed to the government finance profession and can provide leadership to the organization. The 2010 Treasurer will advance to the next Executive Board position each year and serve as President in 2013. Treasurer candidates must be an active member in the association for at least three years.

Nominations are due by August 14, and should include the individual’s name and contact information, past involvement with MnGFOA and/or national GFOA, and any other information you feel makes the individual a strong candidate. Please contact Tom Pepper at 651.675.5017 for more information. Email or send nominations to Tom Pepper at [tpepper@cityofeagan.com](mailto:tpepper@cityofeagan.com) or City of Eagan, 3830 Pilot Knob Road, Eagan, MN 55122.

## CONFERENCE BOOK ADS – LOOKING FOR SPONSORS

The 2009 Annual Conference will be at Arrowwood again this year, September 23 – 25, 2009. The theme this year is “It’s a Whole New Ballgame.” 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 (no increases for 2009) are as follows:

1/4 Page	(3 ¼” W x 4 ½” L)	\$225
1/2 Page	(7” W x 4 ½” L)	\$350
Full Page	(7” W x 9” L)	\$475

Please adhere to these sizes and orientations when submitting your ads. Email a “clean” black and white copy of your ad to George Eilertson at [geilertson@northlandsecurities.com](mailto:geilertson@northlandsecurities.com) by **August 14, 2009**.

If you placed an ad in the 2008 conference book, 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 to:

George Eilertson, Sr. Vice President  
Northland Securities, Inc.  
45 South Seventh Street - #2000  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402

NOTE – if you would like to pay for your ad with a credit card please contact George directly at 612-851-5906.

This is a great way to keep your name in front of the general membership and support the Association at the same time. Thanks to all of you who purchased ads last year. We are looking forward to a great conference and hope to see you at Arrowwood this fall.

## 2009 OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

<u>President</u> Larry Jacobson City of Robbinsdale 763.531.1215	<u>Past President</u> Robin Roland City of Farmington 651.280.6880
<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.



# MGFOA 2009 GOLF OUTING



Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2009

Cost: \$55 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](http://www.wpgolf.com/oakmarsh)

Time: Tee times @ **11:00 am**, - **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 Thursday, July 9, 2009.

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 (email [jeichten@mmkr.com](mailto:jeichten@mmkr.com)) or Ron Hedberg at the City of Apple Valley, 952-953-2540, or email, [rhedberg@ci.apple-valley.mn.us](mailto:rhedberg@ci.apple-valley.mn.us)

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## 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

MINNESOTA GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION  
2009 ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
“IT'S A WHOLE NEW BALL GAME!!! ”

<u>WHEN:</u>	September 23– 25, 2009
<u>WHERE:</u>	Arrowwood Resort Alexandria, Minnesota

CONFERENCE [9/23-25/09]	BY	AFTER
<u>REGISTRATION FEE</u>	<u>August 28</u>	<u>August 28</u>
Member	\$ 225.00	\$ 250.00
Non-Member	\$ 285.00	\$ 310.00

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Minnesota GFOA

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

**Note:** You must register on-line at [www.mngfoa.org](http://www.mngfoa.org) to pay by credit card (MC / Visa only).

**LODGING:** YOU MUST make separate arrangements by completing the attached lodging registration form for Arrowwood Resort by August 28, 2009. 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.

**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 18, 2009 will be refunded in full. All cancellation requests received after September 18, 2009 will be subject to a \$100 charge to cover expenses. Requests for refunds on the conference fee will only be considered up to September 25, 2009.

*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**  
**2009 ANNUAL CONFERENCE**  
**“IT’S A WHOLE NEW BALL GAME!!!”**

**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 [9/23-25/09]**

<b><u>REGISTRATION FEE</u></b>	<b><u>Member</u></b>	<b><u>Non-Member</u></b>	
BY AUGUST 28 <sup>TH</sup>	\$225.00	\$250.00	_____
AFTER AUGUST 28 <sup>TH</sup>	\$285.00	\$310.00	_____
	<b>TOTAL PAID REGISTRATION</b>		=====

**IS THIS YOUR FIRST MGFOA CONFERENCE?** YES NO

**IDENTIFY SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**[SOMEONE WILL CONTACT YOU BY PHONE OR EMAIL REGARDING YOUR NEEDS]**

\_\_\_\_\_

**MINNESOTA GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION**  
**2009 ANNUAL CONFERENCE**  
**“IT’S A WHOLE NEW BALL GAME!!!”**  
**Lodging Reservation Form**  
**September 23-25, 2009**

**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 18, 2009, 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**

\_\_\_\_\_ \$104.00 Standard accommodations/ Per night + tax

\_\_\_\_\_ I am willing to stay in a Townhome unit, if no standard rooms are available at Arrowwood.

\_\_\_\_\_ \$104.00 Townhome room accommodations/ Per night + tax

Please select Townhome preference:

\_\_\_\_\_ 3 BR Townhome Unit

\_\_\_\_\_ 4 BR Townhome Unit

\_\_\_\_\_ \$159.00 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.\*\***

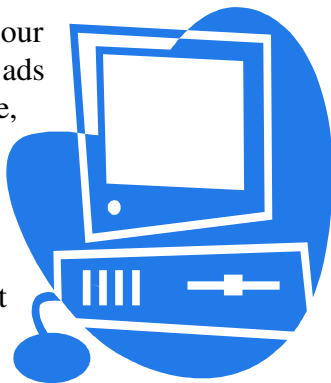
***HOTEL CHECK-IN TIME IS 4 P.M.***  
***HOTEL CHECK-OUT TIME IS 11 A.M.***

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 20<sup>th</sup> 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  
[Cathy.shuman@ci.monticello.mn.us](mailto:Cathy.shuman@ci.monticello.mn.us)

505 Walnut Street, Suite 1  
Monticello MN 55362  
Phone: 763-271-3204  
Fax: 763-295-4404