



GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS

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ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH CAROLINA NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 19, ISSUE 3

SUMMER 2011

Fall Conference 2011

“An Opportunity for Leadership”

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Dates

to

Remember:

2011 Fall Conference

~ An Opportunity for Leadership ~

October 9–12, 2011 ,

New Location:
Marriott
Grand Dunes
Myrtle Beach,
South
Carolina

IT’S HOT!! (and I’m not just referring to the Fall Conference). As I sit here writing this entry for the GFOASC newsletter it is 94 degrees in Florence after two consecutive days above 100. By the time you read this, we will be in a new fiscal year. Our budgets have been passed (finally) and we are starting to think about the year-end audit (everyone’s favorite time of the year). The Fall Conference Committee has been hard at work planning and organizing for this year’s conference. The agenda is nearly complete. Several well-reviewed speakers – Steve Blake, Larry Finney, and Mark Hobbs, to name a few – will be presenting sessions which will make this conference a good learning experience. In addition, thanks to Sarah Sullivan, our Spring Conference chair, **Anne Kinney with GFOA National** has agreed to come speak on the hot topic of performance management. Our keynote speaker this year will be **Dr. Luther F.**

Carter, President of Francis Marion University. Dr. Carter has had a long and distinguished career in public service, having also served as the Chief of Staff for Governor Mark Sanford, the Executive Director of the South Carolina Budget and Control Board, and Senior Executive Assistant for Governor Carroll Campbell.

In addition to being a learning experience (for those of you interested in CPE credit), this conference will also be time to have some fun (for those of you a little less interested in CPE credit). DJ’s Mike Lockaby and Robert Elwood will be returning to help us have a good time both Sunday night and Tuesday night (if you think you can dance). If you can’t dance (like me) they have also agreed to hold an “**introduction to line-dancing**” session on Sunday before the reception. Also, our conference hotel is located right on the beach, for those of you who want to get a little sand between your toes (of course, not during the after-

noon sessions...). Hopefully the conference will also be a time to make new friends and continue to build on existing relationships. If we can meet these three goals – learn (at least a little), have fun, and build relationships – the conference will be a success.

Registration is open. Register now. Do not pass Go. Do not collect \$200. Log onto the website at www.gfoasc.org and register. Speaking of \$200, we have reduced the registration fee for this year’s conference to encourage you to come. In addition, the hotel rate is only \$84 plus \$2 for parking. So go ahead and make plans to join us October 9-12.

See you at the beach...

Kevin V. Yokim, CPA,
CGFO
Florence County Finance
Director
GFOASC President-Elect/
Fall Conference Chair



**“An
Opportunity
for
Leadership”**

GFOASC

Fall Conference

Myrtle Beach, SC

October 9-12, 2011

The first half of 2011 has gone by quickly and now in July with all of the very hot days of Summer. The 2011 Spring Conference Committee did an outstanding job with the Spring Conference at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. Thank you to Sarah Sullivan and the Spring Conference Committee with organizing a successful conference. I hope many of you were able to complete some of your CPE requirements as well as network with other. Dennis Locke, (state representative) and I attended the 105th GFOA National Conference in San Antonio, Texas on May 22-25, 2011. If you have never attended a national conference, it is worth attending. I am not sure what the attendance was at the conference, but there were thousands of delegates that attended this year. Dennis Locke will be providing more information on the GFOA National Conference later. Kevin Yokim, President-Elect and Fall Conference Chair along with the Fall Conference committee are planning a great conference on October 9-12, 2011. This year we will be at a new location, the Marriott Grand Dunes

in Myrtle Beach. I hope each of you will be able to attend this conference this year and network with other finance officers from our state. We are providing four CPE sessions at Seawell's with each providing 8 CPE hours. More information is on our website about these sessions. The University of South Carolina is preparing for our CGFO certification program for 2011-2012. More information will be provided on our web site later. Mark your calendars if you are interested in the Certified Government Finance Officers (CGFO) program this year.

The courses are as follows:

Financial Planning and Budgeting – September 22, 23, 26, and 27, 2011

Capital Planning and Forecasting – October 24 and 25, 2011

Financial Management – December 8 and 9, 2011

Governmental Accounting – February 8, 15, 22, and 29, 2012

Financial Reporting and Auditing – April 18 and 25, 2012.

Test will be given on the following dates:

- November 14 and 15, 2011
- May 14 and 15, 2012

We will post all of this information as soon as the brochure is received from the University of South Carolina. We should have all of the membership information updated soon on the website and the CGFO annual reports posted soon. Please let me know if we need to check and make sure we have updated your information.

The Government Finance Officers Association of South Carolina is your organization so please get involved with all the activities. Please let me know if you are willing to volunteer for an activity.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and then come to the GFOASC Fall Conference on October 9-12, 2011 at the Marriott Grand Dunes in Myrtle Beach to network with other South Carolina Finance Officers. I look forward to seeing you there.

**Sincerely, Billy R. Martin, CGFO
President, GFOASC**

Treasurer's Report ~ By Debra Rountree

Treasurer's Report

As of June 30, 2011, the Association had \$27,525 in the bank. The calendar year surplus of income over expenses was \$16,363.

Thank you to all who have paid their 2011 annual dues. In order to maintain certifications and attend conference and classes at a member rate, members must be in good standing with no balances outstanding. If you have questions about whether you have outstanding balance due or need an invoice for membership, conferences, or CPE classes, please contact me at

routreedr@scdot.org

Reminder: Please review your information in MemberClicks and update if necessary. If there are others in your organization who aren't members, please encourage them to join.



2011 Nominees for Election Stacey Hamm, Nominating Committee Chair

Help shape the GFOASC for years to come!

The nominating committee is gearing up for the 2011 elections! Please let us know if you have someone in mind that would make a good addition to the GFOASC Board or if you would like to volunteer yourself! Time to repay the GFOASC for all the great benefits that the organization provides. This year we will be electing a President-Elect, Treasurer, and two Directors. **This is your Association—make it the best it can be.**

2011 GFOASC Spring Conference Sarah Sullivan, CFGO- Spring Conference Chair

The GFOASC Spring Conference was a great success. There were over 200 people in attendance including members, speakers and sponsors. The Convention Center, as always, did an excellent job with the facilities and food.

The Conference Committee worked diligently to create an interesting and informative agenda. Mayor Steve Benjamin started the day off as our keynote speaker and Dr. Iwana Ridgill ended the day on a positive note with her session “Take this Job and Love It”. (Hope all of you are still able to wear your buttons!!!)

We had record number of sponsors this year and I hope that all of you had the opportunity to speak to them throughout the conference. the opportunity to speak to them throughout the conference.

Thanks to the sponsors, we are able to keep the costs of the conference to a minimum. Thanks to all of you who commented on the evaluation forms. This information is very helpful in preparing for the next year’s conference.

The Conference theme, “Building Opportunities from Adversity”, was meant to encourage us to learn from our difficulties and create opportunities to overcome adverse situations. I hope that we were successful.

**Best Regards,
Sarah Sullivan, CGFO
Spring Conference Chair**

GFOA NATIONAL
Visit <http://www.gfoa.org>
Train from the Convenience of your
desktop along with other professional
development opportunities!

July 2011

- 19th—Debt Management: General Review
(Desktop training)
- 21st—Building Your Community through
Economic Development (Desktop training)
- 25th—Accounting and Financial Reporting
for Capital Assets
- 25th—26th—Analyzing Budgets: The
Nuts and Bolts of Budget Analysis
- 26th—Preparing a CAFR
- 27th—29th— Intermediate Governmental
Accounting
- 27th—Best Practices in Performance
Management

November 3, 2011,
16th Annual GAAP Update

GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

**P.O. BOX 8840
Columbia, SC 29202
(803) 233-9545 Phone
(803) 359-4892 Fax**

2011 OFFICERS

Billy R. Martin, CGFO—President

Kevin Yokim, CPA, CGFO—President-Elect

Debra Rountree, CGFO—Treasurer

Crystal Burr, CGFO—Secretary

Debbie M. Walker, CGFO—Director

Vicki C. Bowles, CGFO—Director

Michael Thom, CGFO—Director

Sarah Sullivan, CGFO—Director

Dennis Locke, CGFO—SC State Representative to GFOA National

Stacey Hamm, CGFO Immediate Past President

**YOU CAN REACH US ON THE WEB!
www.gfoasc.org**

EMPLOYMENT

Please visit the GFOASC Website

Employment line often. New positions are posted there with contact information and these are updated frequently!

SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED BY GFOASC

Congratulations to the GFOASC Academic Scholarship Winner! The winner of the 4 year Willa S. Bellamy Scholarship is Karneisha Wolfe from North Charleston. She is an Accounting major at The University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina with a G.P.A. of 3.95.

On behalf of the Committee, we would also like to remind members about the 2011 Katherine Zook Certification Program Scholarship. This scholarship covers the registration fees and books for the Certified Government Finance Officer (CGFO) certification program through the University of South Carolina. The application is available online at www.gfoasc.org under the Scholarship link. The deadline for submitting the application is August 31, 2011. The recipient will be notified in September prior to the beginning of classes and the winner will also be announced during the Awards Banquet at the Fall Conference in October, so please get your application today! We are also seeking a member to join the Committee who works in the Education field. If you are interested in participating on this committee, please let me know via e-mail, dlocke@cityofspartanburg.org.

Once again, congratulations to Karneisha Wolfe for her academic achievements and we wish her the best with her future pursuits in the Accounting field.

Dennis Locke, CGFO, Scholarship Committee Chair

FALL 2011/SPRING 2012 Certification Program Janice Alonso, CGFO Chair, Certification Committee

The Certification Committee is looking forward to the new year. The following dates have been set for the GFOA Certification Program:

Financial Planning and Budgeting	Sept. 22, 23, 26, 27, 2011
Capital Planning and Forecasting	October 24, 25, 2011
Fall Exams	November 14, 15, 2011
Financial Management	December 8, 9, 2011
Governmental Accounting	February 8, 15, 22, 29, 2012
Financial Reporting and Auditing	April 18, 25, 2012
Spring Exams	May 14, 15, 2012

Additionally, we are sad to say good bye to two of our instructors. David Vehaun, had to give up his teaching because of the wonderful promotion he received, and Tom Whitacre has decided to finally enjoy his retirement. On the bright side Steve Blake, CPA, CFE with Cline Brandt Kochenower & Co. P.A. will be teaching the Financial Management Core Course and Janice Ferguson, CPA is an instructor at USC Columbia will be teaching the Governmental Accounting Core Course along with Wayne Sams.

We wish all of them the best and look forward to a great year.

Jan Alonso, CGFO

Certification Committee-Chair