

Money Talks Money Talks



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President: Larry Johnson

1st Vice President: Kelly Bush

President's Corner



Greetings!

Time waits for no one, seems to be appropriate for this occasion. It seems such a short time ago that I took the oath as your 26th President of the Georgia Government Finance Officers Association. I am amazed at how quickly the time has passed. With the Annual Conference just days away, it will mark the end of my term as President. I have learned so much over the past months. I am grateful for the honor and privilege to have worked with a dedicated Executive Board and such a committed group of Committee Chairs. I would like to thank, "The Team" for their dedicated service and support of GGFOA's mission. Through the hard work of the Team, volunteers and a host of others, we stayed focused on the mission. We have made changes to the

new website for easy identification of Executive Board and Committee chairs, launched the new newsletter, implemented the Bylaw changes for the Scholarship and Award Committee, and contracted to update the strategic plan and training opportunities. To those who I had the opportunity to meet by traveling to your various cities and counties to present the CAFR and/or the budget award, it was my pleasure.

My season is almost over and there is still a lot of work to be done. Remember this is your organization and it needs your help so now is the time to get involved.

It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as your President.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Larry Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Training Opportunities

GGFOA is pleased to offer two excellent training opportunities in conjunction with the Carl Vinson Institute of Government.

The City of Tifton will host "Revenue Administration," on November 1-2, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Tifton Welcome Station. This two-day course offers 12 CPE hours which count toward Level II Certified Finance Officer (CFO) designation.

The City of Norcross will host "Part I: Introductory Governmental Accounting," on November 1-2, 2011 (Part IA) and November 7-8, 2011 (Part IB) from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Norcross Community Center. This four-day course offers 24 CPE hours which count toward Level I Certified Finance Officer (CFO) designation.

Registration information is available online at www.ggfoa.org or you may register online with a credit card at <http://www.vinsoninstitute.org/ggfoahost>.

If you are interested in learning how your government can become a host site, please contact the Career Development Chair, Cindy Campbell at ccampbell@dawsoncounty.org

Scholarship Report

Hello, my name is Paul Salvatore and I was the recipient of GGFOA's 2011 Scholarship to attend the Government Finance Officers Association's Advanced Governmental Finance Institute in Madison, Wisconsin this past June. First, please let me express my deep and sincere gratitude to the GGFOA Board and Scholarship Committee for affording me this invaluable experience. My initial thoughts about attending a program containing the words 'advanced government finance' were, "Boy, this is going to be one geeky program filled with high-tech talk of GASB, GAAP, best practices, performance measurement, etc., etc.". Although those are all essential tools for practicing our craft at a high level, one aspect of training for government finance officers that may often be overlooked is basic leadership skills. Although the program included training on some of those more technical aspects mentioned above, the majority of the program focused on developing the skills needed to be a good *leader*. Various exercises were conducted wherein such leadership skills were developed and used in a controlled setting, including a group case study and presentation at the end of the program. The curriculum included such topics as, *Working Well Together in Teams, Communicating in a Changing World, Leading Organizational Change* and *Work/Life Balance*, to name a few. I have immediately incorporated many aspects of what I learned, not only into my work life, but into my personal life as well. Not only did the program make me feel like a better finance officer, but a better person as well. I would recommend this program for anybody looking to take their career to 'the next level', and also urge the GGFOA to include more topics of this nature into its own training programs. Once again, I am very grateful to GGFOA for this wonderful life experience.

Thank You!!!

Paul Salvatore

BE THE ONE



The future of GGFOA lies within each individual who hears the call to service and acts. *Be The One* is an initiative designed to encourage volunteerism, motivate participation, and stimulate the desire to serve, which will build depth in our organization. Only through involvement of others will GGFOA be a sustainable association. The Board and Committee Chairs are ready to hear from you and get you involved. Your time, talent, and commitment are long overdue.
“BE THE ONE” - contact us today.

Melody Marlowe
Past President

Calendar of Events

- October 2-5, 2011, Annual GGFOA Conference – Savannah, Georgia

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You have received this copy of *Money Talks* because you are a GGFOA member or are currently in our database.

Please visit GGFOA's website at www.ggfoa.org to obtain information regarding GGFOA, its services, and activities. Please send news articles to Cindy West at cwest@statesboroga.net.

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