



# GGFOA

July 2005

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## *Message from the President*

GREETINGS TO ALL!

I hope you are having a great summer and have been able to dry out after all the recent rain.

The year is just zooming by. It's hard to believe that that it's already July and that means the annual conference is just around the corner.

The conference committee has been working hard to prepare for our annual conference celebrating 20 years of promoting excellence in governmental financial management. There will be three session tracks focusing on finance, leadership and management. And, of course, there will be plenty of opportunities for networking and fellowship. Look for the conference brochure in the mail soon. This is a conference you won't want to miss!

Your GGFOA Executive Board works hard to try and serve all our members. I want to thank them for the job they do and encourage any of our members to let us know how we can serve you better.

See y'all at the conference!

Michael Plant

Promoting Excellence in Governmental Accounting

## WELCOME NEW GGFOA MEMBERS

Jeff K. Anners CPA	McLaw, Calhoun, McCullough, Clark & Co, PC
John E. Boyle	Chatham Area Transit Authority
Susan E. Braddy, CPA	McLaw, Calhoun, McCullough, Clark & Co, PC
Dana Chancey	City of Waycross
Darlene Chester, CPA	McLaw, Calhoun, McCullough, Clark & Co, PC
Eddie Clarke	Forsyth County Bd of Commissioners
Kellie Corbin, CPA	McLaw, Calhoun, McCullough, Clark & Co, PC
Elizabeth Cordero	Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority
Randy Dennis	Administrative Office of the Courts of Georgia
Peter K. Floyd	Alston & Bird, LLP
Eric Gilkesson	Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority
Steve Johnson	City of Roswell
Georgette McCray	City of Roswell
Robin McCullough, CPA	McLaw, Calhoun, McCullough, Clark & Co, PC
Eugene C. O'Mard	Dekalb County Government
Richard Platto	Gwinnett County Government
Jennifer Stewart	City of Roswell
Fallany O. Stover	Alston & Bird, LLP
Daron Tarlton	Moore & Cubbedge, LLP
Rahel Turner	City of Roswell
William Vaickmann, Jr.	Moore & Cubbedge, LLP
Della Wager Wells	Alston & Bird, LLP
Tacie Jo Williams	City of Jasper

## NEW BUDGET MANUAL AVAILABLE

### NEW BUDGET MANUAL PUBLISHED

A new guide to budget preparation and management designed especially for Georgia officials has been published by the University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute of Government. *Budget Manual for Georgia Local Government* will be useful to officials and administrators charged with either developing or managing a local government budget.

*Budget Manual* helps readers expand their understanding of how financial information is organized, presented, and used by both the local government and the general public. The book begins with an overview of the budget process and a close look at the key people involved in creating an accurate budget. Next is a review of the components of the local government budget, as well as revenue and expenditure summaries. Subsequent chapters then discuss budget preparation, forecasting, action on the budget, operating within the budget, and the audit and review process. All the essentials of each topic are covered, with the information presented in a thorough yet practical format for easy reference. Capitol improvements planning and bonds are also discussed. A glossary and appendices are included.

Copies of *Budget Manual for Georgia Local Government*, 126 pages, softbound, is available for \$18.95 (plus tax if applicable, and shipping charges) from the Publications Program, Carl Vinson Institute of Government, University of Georgia. All orders must be prepaid. For details, visit the online store at [www.vinsoninstitute.org/catalog](http://www.vinsoninstitute.org/catalog) or call 706-542-6214.

Contact: Ann Allen, 706-542-6221; [allen@cviog.uga.edu](mailto:allen@cviog.uga.edu)

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Visit our website at [www.GGFOA.org](http://www.GGFOA.org) to find out how you can become involved with GGFOA. Your participation would be appreciated on any of the committees.

If you need Membership Applications for your friends who may want to join GGFOA, contact Barbara Marable at 706-542-8162.

*I know that you will enjoy being a member of GGFOA.*

# IT'S GGFOA SCHOLARSHIP TIME!

***ARE YOU PREPARING FOR A CAREER IN PUBLIC FINANCE?***

***ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A SCHOLARSHIP TO HELP YOU COMPLETE YOUR DEGREE?***

***Then look into the Georgia Government Finance Officers Association (GGFOA) Scholarship Program!***

Review the eligibility requirements below and submit an application to GGFOA by **August 31, 2005** to be considered for one of two scholarships up to \$3,000 each.

**Eligibility Requirements:**

- Undergraduate (junior or senior level) or graduate students who are currently enrolled or accepted (for graduate school) as full-time students at a Georgia college/university in public administration, business, or other applicable program leading to a degree which prepares students for careers in public finance.
- Must maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Nomination by the head of the applicable program (e.g., public administration, accounting, finance).
- **A permanent, full-time employee of a governmental entity may qualify if enrolled in a course-load equivalent of 6 semester hours.**
- The maximum amount of the two scholarships is \$3,000 each. Scholarship award amounts will be based on number of enrolled semester hours as follows:
  - o 6 – 8 hours            \$1,500 award amount
  - o 9 – 11 hours         \$2,250 award amount
  - o 12+ hours            \$3,000 award amount

**Applicants must submit the following documents for consideration by the Scholarship Selection Committee:**

- Application Form (available at [www.ggfoa.org](http://www.ggfoa.org))
- Statement of Proposed Career plan and/or plan of study
- Undergraduate and/or graduate transcripts
- GRE, GMAT, or LSAT score if available (copy of official report is acceptable)
- Resume

Academic department or program head's letter of nomination

**Submit the above items in a single envelope, postmarked not later than AUGUST 31, 2005 and mailed to:**

**Scholarship Selection Committee  
Georgia Government Finance Officers Association  
Post Office Box 6473    Athens, GA    30604-6473**

## *NEWS ON THE GGFOA'S WEBSITE*

**Now all GGFOA members are able to post questions or topics of interest and reply to others via GGFOA's website message boards.**

**In addition to message board there is a list of information on the GGFOA Committees, the name of each Committee Chairperson and their contact information. The Committees are:**

- *Annual Conference*
- *Career Development*
- *Communications*
- *Governmental Relations/Strategic Planning*
- *Scholarship/Awards*
- *Technical Resources*

**Please take a moment and review information on the GGFOA website ([www.ggfoa.org](http://www.ggfoa.org)) about the Committees. Select one that peaks your interest, contact the chairperson and offer your help. It is important that all GGFOA's members work together to promote excellence in governmental financial management.**

### *Newsletter Delivery*

**GGFOA would like to take advantage of technology by sending their members who have e-mail capabilities an announcement via e-mail when the GGFOA newsletter is available.**

***Receiving your newsletter by e-mail would benefit you and GGFOA.***

**If you are receiving a postcard notification about the availability of the current newsletter then GGFOA does not have an e-mail address on file for you or the e-mail address that is on file is incorrect, please contact Barbara Marable at [marable@cviog.uga.edu](mailto:marable@cviog.uga.edu) to provide your e-mail address.**

**THANK YOU!!**

## Public Finance Workshop Available to all Georgia GFOA Members

On August 11th starting at 8:30 a.m. at the Peachtree Westin Hotel ( 210 Peachtree St. NW) in Atlanta, Bond Logistix will offer a public finance workshop focusing on *investment and tax-compliance issues relating to tax-exempt debt issuance*. The workshop will include a review of recent developments in tax-exempt finance and discuss solutions to arbitrage rebate, investment issues and swaps critical to members. This workshop is designed for treasury, finance, accounting and other public finance officials. You will receive continuing education credits for participation in this workshop. It will feature nationally prominent experts including Mr. George Majors, a well known speaker and teacher on interest rate swaps.

**To find out more about this workshop along with discounts for GGFOA members, please contact**

**Mr. Erik Dingwall at 813 286 8609, or e mail Erik at [edingwall@bondlogistix.com](mailto:edingwall@bondlogistix.com).**

*Bond Logistix LLC is a SEC registered investment advisory firm specializing in serving public finance related entities through consulting and investment advisory services. For more about Bond Logistix , please go to [www.bondlogistix.com](http://www.bondlogistix.com) .*

## ***MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT PROGRAM***

Dear Fellow GGFOA members;

The GGFOA membership committee needs your help in promoting our *membership recruitment program*.

Any member who brings in **five or more new members and those new members also attend the GGFOA 20th Annual Conference in Savannah this coming October 2-5, 2005**, will be *entered into a drawing for a \$200.00 cash award, Certificate of Recognition and a mystery bag with valuable gifts.*

For additional details or if you have any questions on this special membership recruitment plan please call me at 229-391-3896, or any Committee members that are in your CD Directory and on our website: [www.ggfoa.org](http://www.ggfoa.org).

**Good things happen when a team works together! New members can strengthen our organization and you can help make a difference in the success of this recruitment program.**

Thank you in advance for your efforts in this endeavor and we look forward to seeing you at the convention in Savannah.

*Carmina Turner, Chairman*

Membership Committee

## 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GGFOA CONFERENCE

*Come join us October 2 – 5, 2005, in Savannah for our Annual Conference celebrating 20 Years of Promoting Excellence in Governmental Financial Management.*

We will kick off the conference Sunday night, with a Riverboat Cruise Reception – including a buffet dinner and entertainment. Monday morning will begin our informational sessions, vendor exhibits, and networking. We are running three concurrent sessions at a time with a focus on Finance, Management, and Leadership - something for everyone. If you bring questions to the conference that are not specifically addressed in one of the sessions, we have a session planned for Wednesday morning with a panel of “experts” to provide those answers or at the very least direct you to the proper agency to assist you with your needs.

*Be on the lookout for your registration brochure – and **plan on joining us there.***

For information on Savannah with its beautiful historic district and of course all of the shopping and eating on Riverstreet, check out [www.Savannah.com](http://www.Savannah.com).

### GGFOA Newsletter & Website

Please send any information for GGFOA website updates and ideas to:

**Amy Burch Communications Committee**

Phone: (229) 259-3516 Fax: (229) 333-1858

Email: [aburch@valdostacity.com](mailto:aburch@valdostacity.com)

Please send any information for GGFOA newsletter updates, articles and/or ideas to:

**Wendy Johnson Communications Committee**

Phone: (770) 641-3738 Fax: (770) 641-3739

Email: [wjohnson@ci.roswell.ga.us](mailto:wjohnson@ci.roswell.ga.us)

### Useful Resources at the GGFOA Website

- Listing of all scheduled meetings and training opportunities.
- Members can share ideas by posting in the message boards. If you haven't signed up yet, please register now.
- GGFOA awards up to two scholarships each year to students who are pursuing studies in a public finance area, public administration, or a career in government finance. Information can be obtained on the website.
- Each year GGFOA recognizes outstanding members of the organization. You can see the most recent award winners on the website.
- A calendar that shows upcoming important events in the area of governmental financial management.
- Important information regarding GGFOA's Committees and contact information.

**GEORGIA GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS  
ASSOCIATION**

For more information on GGFOA organization, please contact our central office as listed below, or visit our website at [www.ggfoa.org](http://www.ggfoa.org).

Georgia GFOA  
P. O. Box 6473  
Athens, Georgia 30604-6473  
Phone (706) 542-8162  
Fax (706) 542-9856  
Email: [kesler@cviog.uga.edu](mailto:kesler@cviog.uga.edu)



**GGFOA**

**We are on the Web at  
[ggfoa.org](http://ggfoa.org)**

## GGFOA Helpful Contacts

NAME	POSITION	EMAIL
Mike Plant	President	<a href="mailto:michael.plant@comcast.net">michael.plant@comcast.net</a>
Amy Davis	1st Vice President	<a href="mailto:adavis@cherokeega.com">adavis@cherokeega.com</a>
Paul Salvatore	2nd Vice President	<a href="mailto:psalvatore@peachtree-city.org">psalvatore@peachtree-city.org</a>
Brad Bowers	Secretary Treasurer	<a href="mailto:bbowers@cobbcounty.org">bbowers@cobbcounty.org</a>
Melody Marlowe	Director	<a href="mailto:mmarlowe@gainesville.org">mmarlowe@gainesville.org</a>
Bill Epps	Director	<a href="mailto:bepps@cityoftybee.org">bepps@cityoftybee.org</a>
Ed Blaha	Director	<a href="mailto:blahaef@audits.state.ga.us">blahaef@audits.state.ga.us</a>
Angela Cole	Director	<a href="mailto:acole@columbusga.org">acole@columbusga.org</a>
Kay Love	Director - Past President	<a href="mailto:klove@ci.roswell.ga.us">klove@ci.roswell.ga.us</a>
Kelly Belcastro	Committee - Annual Conference	<a href="mailto:kbelcastro@co.henry.ga.us">kbelcastro@co.henry.ga.us</a>
Stephanie Black	Committee-Career Development	<a href="mailto:sblack@lowndescounty.com">sblack@lowndescounty.com</a>
Wendy Johnson	Committee-Communications	<a href="mailto:wjohnson@ci.roswell.ga.us">wjohnson@ci.roswell.ga.us</a>
Kirk Nylund	Committee-Government Relations	<a href="mailto:knylund@maconwater.org">knylund@maconwater.org</a>
Carmina Turner	Committee-Membership	<a href="mailto:turnercg@tifton.net">turnercg@tifton.net</a>
Kay Love	Committee - Nominating	<a href="mailto:klove@ci.roswell.ga.us">klove@ci.roswell.ga.us</a>
Linda Zarkowsky	Committee-Scholarship Awards	<a href="mailto:lzarko1@alltel.net">lzarko1@alltel.net</a>
Mike Bush	Committee-Technical Resources	<a href="mailto:mbush@dca.state.ga.us">mbush@dca.state.ga.us</a>
Mark Barber	Committee-Past President	<a href="mailto:mbarber@valdostacity.com">mbarber@valdostacity.com</a>