



# GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS

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### ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH CAROLINA NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 1

SPRING 2010

## The GFOASC 2010 Spring Conference

## Surviving a Wild Ride!



May 3, 2010  
8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.  
The Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center

The Government Finance Officers Association of South Carolina

Columbia Metropolitan  
Convention Center  
1101 Lincoln Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

[www.columbiaconventioncenter.com](http://www.columbiaconventioncenter.com)

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## Dates to Remember:

Spring Conference

May 3, 2010

Fall Conference

October 17-20, 2010

Myrtle Beach, SC

## 2010 SPRING CONFERENCE IS COMING

### Spring Conference Chair ~ DEBBIE M. WALKER, CGFO, MBA

The GFOASC Spring Conference will be held on Monday, May 3, 2010, at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center in Columbia. The 2010 Spring Conference Committee is meeting to develop an outstanding program. We all are excited about developing a great conference this year and look forward to seeing you there. As we strive to survive during severe economic downturns, the committee has selected "Surviving a Wild Ride" as the conference's theme. As we come to bumps in the road and many sharp turns in this current economic recession,

the term "sustainability", whether it's financial or green, is no longer a marketing buzzword. The term is now considered by financial officers as a necessity in the way we approach balancing the budgets in this rapidly changing economy. I don't have to remind you how critical the finance officer position is as we undertake the necessary steps to manage the financial health of our organizations.

It is the desire of the Spring Conference Committee to create a program that will encourage and strengthen our desire as leaders to

develop sustainable organizations, and to become resilient in the process.

Tell your colleagues about this exciting networking opportunity and the ability to earn approximately 6 CPE credits for only \$75.00 (Registration includes all conference materials, refreshment breaks and lunch.) This event will take you out of the office for only one day, and you will be glad you attended.

See you in the spring!

**Debbie M. Walker, CGFO, MBA,**  
Spring Conference Chair

## 2010 Fall Conference Chair- President Elect ~ BILLY R. MARTIN

The 2010 GFOASC Fall Conference will be held October 17-20, 2010 at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center and Sheraton Hotel. The 2010 GFOASC Fall Conference committee has started meeting and planning a variety of sessions for you. This conference offers you a great value with an average of 16 units of CPE as well as a chance of networking with

government finance officers from across South Carolina. Please mark your calendar and make plans to attend this conference in October. I am looking forward to seeing all of you there! Please watch the Web site for more details as they become available ([www.gfoasc.org](http://www.gfoasc.org)). If you have ideas or suggestions, please visit the web site and

let us know your suggestions or please feel free to call me at (803) 785-8196 or email me at [bmartin@lex-co.com](mailto:bmartin@lex-co.com) with your ideas. Now is the time our committee is looking for your input. This is your conference, so let's make it the best!

**Don't miss this great CPE and networking opportunity.**

*Best Regards Billy Martin,*  
GFOASC President Elect

*Myrtle Beach*  
**GFOASC**  
*Myrtle Beach*  
**October 17-20**



## FROM YOUR PRESIDENT ~ STACEY D. HAMM

Welcome to 2010, I look forward to serving as the President of GFOASC. The board members and I are working hard to meet the primary objectives of our organization. As always, our primary focus is to promote programs that will address the professional development needs of our members.

Just some quick thoughts to share as we get ready for a busy Spring. First, the next CPE class is scheduled for April 23<sup>rd</sup> at Seawell's in Columbia. The class schedule is being finalized and will be placed on the website with all the details and registration forms at [www.gfoasc.org](http://www.gfoasc.org). Second, the Spring Conference is on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center again this year. Debbie Walker with Midlands Technical College will chair this year's Spring Conference. We look forward to seeing you there. Again, more information is located in this newsletter and will be available on our website. Two scholarships

will be offered to college students again this year. The deadline is April 15<sup>th</sup> to apply. Please spread the word out there to the colleges and universities about scholarships to 2 year and 4 year students. Interest from our 4 year students has been low and we don't want to miss awarding the scholarship.

Our Fall Conference will be held in Myrtle Beach from October 17<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center and Sheraton Hotel. Billy Martin our President-Elect and Fall Conference Chair is working with his committee on the plans. We hope to frame this year's conference in such a way to keep costs down, so that as many as possible may attend. I know travel restrictions are in effect, so we will do our best to make the Fall Conference as inexpensive as possible.

As we set out to accomplish our goals your assistance will be greatly appreciated. We need

your participation, ideas and suggestions. Please feel free to **c o n t a c t** me at [hamms@rcgov.us](mailto:hamms@rcgov.us) or you can contact any of the board members or committee chairs. Contact information can be found on the GFOASC website [www.gfoasc.org](http://www.gfoasc.org). We look forward to working hard for the organization this year as well as hearing from you.

**Best Regards,**  
**Stacey D. Hamm,**  
**GFOASC President**

## GFOA National Training Events

GFOA's 104<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference will be held June 6-9, 2010 in Atlanta, Georgia.

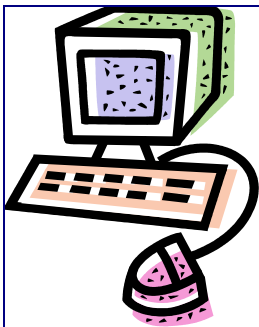
The conference will offer 22 CPE credits with additional CPE credits offered through preconference seminars held on Friday and Saturday before the conference.

Below are listed some of GFOA's upcoming **internet training** events.

For course listings, descriptions and to register, go to [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org).

- **April 14** – The Cost of Performance Management (How to Do More with Less)

- **April 21** – Best Practices in Budgeting and Fiscal Policy
- **May 5** – Best Practices in Accounting Auditing and Financial Reporting
- **November 10** – 15<sup>th</sup> Annual GAAP Update



## Update from your State Representative ~ Karen Wicker

### Awards Programs

GFOA established the *Distinguished Budget Presentation Award* Program to encourage and assist state and local governments to prepare budget documents of the very highest quality that reflect both the guidelines established by the National Advisory Council on State and Local Budgeting and the GFOA's recommended practices on budgeting and then to recognize individual governments that succeed in achieving that goal.



Congratulations to the following *Distinguished Budget Awards Program Winners* from July – December 2009:

Mr. Stephen A. Bedard – City of Charleston; Mr. Phillip Robey – City of Greenville; Mr. Kevin Etheridge – Richland County; Mr. Steven Markiw – Town of Hilton Head Island; Ms. Kathy S. Roberts – Town of Lexington (First Time Winner); Ms. Peggy Maxwell – City of Anderson; Ms. Mary Trussell – North Charleston Sewer District; Ms. Linda Blackerby – Spartanburg County; Mr. L. Lee Moulder – Dorchester County; Ms. Jessica H. Miller – City of Georgetown; Mr. Mack Gile – Charleston County

GFOA established the *Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Program* to encourage and assist state and local governments to go beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles to prepare comprehensive annual financial reports that evidence the spirit of transparency and full disclosure and then to recognize individual governments that succeed in achieving that goal.

Congratulations to the South Carolina *CAFR Award Program Winners*. You can find a complete list on the GFOA website at [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org). If you or your governmental entity has received an award, such as the Certificate of Achievement in Financial Reporting or the Distinguished Budget Award, from GFOA and would like to have a representative from GFOASC present that award, you may contact me at (803) 734-9871 or email [karen.wicker@sto.sc.gov](mailto:karen.wicker@sto.sc.gov).

## 2010 Continuing Professional Education Opportunities

By James Absher, Jr., CGFO ~Chairman, Program Committee

In the current economic downturn, organizations are increasingly looking to their finance professionals for leadership through tight financial times. Finance professionals are being asked along with other senior staff members to help evaluate what core functions are necessary to the organization's overall mission. Once the core functions are established, then the finance staff must provide a solid financial foundation to fund those specific functions with the limited funds currently available. This task may require significant changes from past practices. During this very difficult financial time, continuing education and networking with peers are vital to the success of finance professionals.

The continuing professional education opportunities to be offered this year by the association include four one day CPE classes. The topics and speakers for these classes are still being finalized at this time, but the dates of the one day CPE classes are:

April 23, 2010

July 16, 2010

August 13, 2010

November 12, 2010

Once the topics and speakers are finalized, program descriptions and registration forms will be placed on the GFOASC website. If anyone has any suggestions for topics, please let me know. The committee welcomes input from members concerning topics for future CPE programs.

In addition to the above scheduled one day CPE classes, the association also holds a spring and fall conference every year. The spring conference will be held on May 3, 2010. The spring conference will once again be held at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. The fall conference will be held in October 2010 at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center. Both of these conferences offer excellent opportunities to receive CPE credits and to network with your governmental finance counterparts. Please continue to check the GFOASC website for updated information concerning topics and registration for the CPE classes and annual conferences being offered this year. **James Absher, Jr., CGFO, Chairman, Program Committee**

# GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

P.O. BOX 8840  
Columbia, SC 29202  
(803) 576-2273 Stacey Hamm, President  
(803) 785-8196 Billy Martin, President-  
Elect  
(803) 898-3987 Scott Ludlam, Past  
President

## 2010 OFFICERS

Stacey D. Hamm, CGFO—President  
Billy R. Martin, CGFO—President-Elect  
Debra Rountree, CGFO—Treasurer  
Angela Gunter, CGFO—Secretary  
James Absher, CGFO—Director  
Jeanne Griffin, CGFO—Director  
Vicki C. Bowles, CGFO—Director  
Debbie M. Walker, CGFO—Director  
Karen Wicker, CGFO—SC State Representative  
to GFOA National  
Scott Ludlam, Immediate Past President



**Don't Forget!**

Just a friendly  
reminder, be sure  
your membership  
dues are current!



## GFOASC BULLETIN BOARD



## Scholarship Opportunities

The GFOASC will be offering two academic scholarships again this year. The **Willa S. Bellamy Scholarship**, in the amount of **\$2,000**, will be awarded to a college student who attends a public four-year college or university. The **Founding Fathers Scholarship**, in the amount of **\$500**, will be awarded to a college student who attends a public two-year college or university. These scholarships will be awarded at the GFOASC Spring Conference on May 3, 2010.

**Submission Deadline: Applications must be received on or before April 15, 2010.**

The association also awards the **Katherine Zook Certification Program Scholarship** which covers the costs of registration fees and books for the five certification courses. The applicant must be a member (regular or agency) of the GFOASC. This scholarship will be awarded at the GFOASC Fall Conference in October 2010.

**Submission Deadline: Applications must be received on or before August 31, 2010.**

Please visit ([www.gfoasc.org](http://www.gfoasc.org)) to download an application or notify Jeanne Griffin at (843) 884-8517 to obtain an application by mail. The complete application should be submitted to the following address: Government Finance Officers Association of SC

Attn: Scholarship Committee Chair

P O Box 8840

Columbia, SC 29202



**YOU CAN REACH US ON THE  
WEB!**

[www.gfoasc.org](http://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 !



**P.O. BOX 8840  
Columbia, SC 29202  
(803) 576-2273 Stacey  
Hamm, President**

***Register by completing  
the registration form.  
You may mail or fax to:  
(803) 822-3359 Fax***

***PO Box 2408  
Columbia, SC 29202  
Attn: Robin Glover***

***Our Keynote Speaker  
Will be  
Paula Harper Bethea,  
Executive Director  
South Carolina Lottery  
Commission***

# **Government Finance Officers Association of South Carolina 2010 Spring Conference “Surviving a Wild Ride” *Monday, May 3rd, 2010***

The GFOASC 2010 Spring Conference



***Location: The Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center  
Columbia, SC***

Name

Name for Badge

Agency/Company

Address

City, State, & Zip

Phone

Fax

Email

Circle member or non-member rate

	Member	Non-Member
<input type="checkbox"/> Early Bird (before 4/15/10)	\$ 75.00	\$125.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular (from 4/15/10—5/3/10)	\$ 95.00	\$145.00
<input type="checkbox"/> On-site or late payment (after 5/3/10)	\$115.00	\$165.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Membership Fee-Regular	\$ 50.00	N/A

***(Does not include Conference Registration)***