



GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS

THE GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH CAROLINA NEWSLETTER

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WINTER 2012

2013 SPRING CONFERENCE IS COMING April 29, 2013

The 2013 Spring Conference Committee will begin its planning process for an exciting Spring Conference. The conference will be held on Monday, April 29, 2013 at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. **Breta Smith** has agreed to Chair the Spring Conference. She serves as the Finance Director for the Riverbanks Zoo. If you would like to volunteer to serve on the 2013 Spring Conference Committee please contact Debbie M. Walker at walkerd@midlandstech.edu.



2013 GFOASC Spring Conference Chair

Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center
1101 Lincoln Street
Columbia, SC 29201

www.columbiaconventioncenter.com

2012 Fall Conference Recap, Chair-President Elect

~Debbie M. Walker~

The 2012 Fall Conference was a very successful conference. The theme for the Conference was "Step Into The Rhythm of Leadership". The evaluation forms turned in included such comments as "best conference in years", "one of the best I've ever attended", and "best conference ever". I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and offer a big thank you to the 2012 Fall Conference Committee on doing an outstanding job. The Conference began meeting in March and spent many hours (and thousands of emails) in planning and preparing for the fall conference. The conference also received many good comments on the speakers and topics. Dr. Dale Henry opened the conference with a southern comical presentation tying in Doing Our Best. Stephen Gauthier from GFOA and Blue Book author presented a

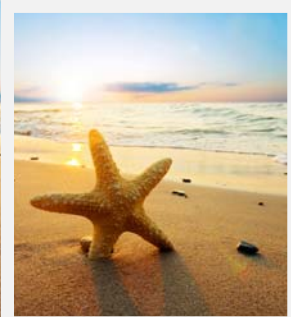
two hour session on the Blue Book changes. Senator Shane Massey was one of the closing speaker as was Glenda Doles. Ms. Doles closed out the Conference with a comical session on Leadership, A Letter at a Time. All the speaker and sessions received many positive comments as did the Marriott Hotel. This is the second year in which we have held the Fall conference at this facility. The hotel staff did a super job in providing excellent customer service and food. Being right on the beach was definitely a plus, however, we haven't been able to order the perfect weather. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our vendors and sponsors for the support that was provided in making this year's conference a success. Just a reminder, next year's conference dates are October 13-16, 2013, so begin your

planning to attend next year's conference and put it on your calendar. You will be in good hands with Dennis Locke, the 2013 GFOASC President-Elect and Fall Conference Chair. Dennis has already begun planning for another great conference. If you are willing to help Dennis out by serving on the 2013 Fall Conference Committee or volunteering your time to work registration or performing other tasks please let him know. For those of you who attended the 2012 Conference, please tell your friends and co-workers what a great time you had and encourage them to come so next year's conference will be even bigger and better.

Debbie M. Walker, MBA, CGFO
Midlands Technical College,
2012 GFOASC President-Elect/Fall Conference Chair

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Dates to Remember:

Spring Conference

April 29, 2013

Fall Conference

October 13-16, 2013

Myrtle Beach, SC

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT ~ KEVIN YOKIM, CPA, CGFO

Looking back at 2012, it has been a great year. We had two great conferences, offered four CPE courses, gave three scholarships, and recognized new CGFO's. Our year got off to a rousing start with our Spring Conference on May 7 in Columbia. We had, by far, the largest number of vendors and sponsors we have ever had at a Spring Conference. The conference kicked off with a great keynote address by Mark Hobbs and closed with Glenda Doles asking us what we got out of life. Thanks to William Hall, conference chair, and his committee for a great conference. In June, President-Elect Debbie Walker and I had the opportunity to attend the GFOA national conference in Chicago. The vendor hall was incredible and we were able to make many contacts that resulted in at least two new sponsors for our Fall Conference. One highlight of the conference was the keynote address by the Mayor of Chicago, Rahm Emanuel, former Chief of Staff to President Obama. GFOASC Board Member Larry Sapp, who serves on a GFOA national committee, gave a presentation at a concurrent session, and Anne

Harty from the City of Rock Hill facilitated a session as well. In July we kicked off our CPE program. We were able to have four sessions this year in July, August, September, and November. Thanks to Steve Blake, Wayne Sams, Larry Finney, and John Taylor for stepping up this year and instructing for us. Incoming President Debbie Walker has already begun plans for next year's program. Stay tuned to our website for news of the 2013 program. The 2012 Fall Conference was the highlight of the year. President-Elect Debbie Walker and her committee did a great job. Groove Town Entertainment started us off on Sunday night and Monday morning brought two great presentations from Dr. Dale Henry, who challenged us to do our best, and Stephen Gauthier from GFOA National gave us an overview of the new "Blue Book." On Tuesday morning we received an overview of the Dodd-Frank Act, followed by some great breakout sessions. On Wednesday, the conference closed with an address from Senator Shane Massey, following by another hilarious presentation by Glenda Doles who discussed leadership

one letter at a time. Congratulations to the newly elected board members that were also announced at the conference: Dennis Locke, President-Elect, Larry Sapp, State Representative to GFOA National, Kendra Dove, Board Member, Carrie Johnson, Board Member and Beverly Mozie, Secretary. As I ride off into the sunset at the end of the year, GFOASC will be in good hands. Debbie Walker has already begun forming committees. Dennis Locke is already making plans for next year's fall conference. Planning for the spring conference is underway as well. I am looking forward to a great 2013. Check the website frequently. Get involved. Let's make 2013 the best year ever for GFOASC.

Best Regards,

Kevin Yokim, CPA, CGFO
2012 GFOASC President

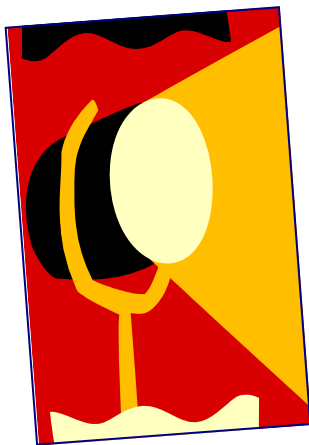
**2013 New GFOASC Board Members**

At the 2012 Fall Conference, five new board members were elected, Dennis Locke, CGFO, President-Elect, Beverly Mozie, CGFO, Secretary, Carrie Johnson, CMC, CPFA, MBL, Board Member, Kendra Dove, Board Member and Larry Sapp, CGFO, State Representative to GFOA National. Dennis Locke currently serves as the Finance Director for the City of Spartanburg. He has been a GFOASC Board Member and the State Representative to GFOA National and has been a member of GFOASC and GFOA since 1998. Dennis has served on several Fall Conference committees including the 2012 committee. Beverly Mozie, CGFO serves as a Fiscal Analyst II for the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulations where she is responsible for various financial duties for the agency including the auditing of agency deposits and payroll in SCEIS. She served on

the 2012 Spring Conference Committee and the 2012 Fall Conference committee. Carrie Johnson, CMC, CPFA, MBL serves as the Finance Director for the City of Orangeburg. Her responsibilities includes budgeting, auditing, business license collections, property tax collections, and many other responsibilities. She has served on the Spring Conference Committee and the 2012 Fall Conference Committee. Kendra Dove currently serves as the Deputy Treasurer for Richland County. She is an experienced professional in both state and local government. Kendra has been an active member of GFOASC since 2007 and has served on three Fall Conference planning Committees. Larry Sapp, CGFO serves as the Finance Manager for Hilton Head No. 1 Public Service District a water and sewer utility. He has been a member

of GFOASC and GFOA since 1989. Larry has served on the GFOASC Board as a director for one year and began serving on the GFOA's Committee on Governmental Debt Management, a three year term, in January 2012. Please join me in welcoming these new officers. I look forward to working with them in 2013. Three officers' terms will end at the end of this year; Billy Martin, Past President, Crystal Smith, Secretary, and Michael Thom, Board Member. Please join me in thanking them for their willingness to serve GFOASC and what they each contributed to our organization.

Debbie M. Walker, MBA, CGFO
Associate Vice President for Business Affairs—Midlands Technical College—2013 GFOASC President



Update from your State Representative ~ Dennis Locke

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.

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 and Distinguished Budget Presentation Award Program Winners*. Kevin Yokim will present Florence School District Three its 1st Certificate of Achievement of Excellence in Financial Reporting on December 20, 2012. You can find a complete list on the GFOA website at 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 the 2013 GFOASC State Representative to National present that award, you may contact Larry Sapp at (543) 681-0521 or email lsapp@hhpsd.com



2013 Continuing Professional Education Opportunities

The 2013 Continuing Professional Education Opportunities dates and speakers have been finalized. Once the topics are finalized, program descriptions and registration forms will be placed on the GFOASC website. If anyone has any suggestions for topics, please contact **Debbie M. Walker at walkerd@midlandstech.edu**. GFOASC welcomes input from members concerning topics for future CPE programs. In addition to the one day CPE classes, the association also holds a spring and fall conference every year. The spring conference will be held on April 29, 2013 and will once again be held at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, Columbia. The fall conference will be held October 13-16, 2013 at the Marriott Grande Dunes, Myrtle Beach, SC. 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 upcoming year. **Debbie M. Walker, MBA, CGFO**

We need volunteers to serve on the 2013 GFOASC Committees!!! Please contact GFOASC at info@gfoasc.org and let us know of your interest.



GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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



GFOASC BULLETIN BOARD

2013 OFFICERS

Debbie M. Walker, MBA, CGFO—President

Dennis Locke, CGFO—President-Elect

Sarah Sullivan, CGFO—Treasurer

Beverly R. Mozie, CGFO—Secretary

Angie McInchok, CGFO—Director

Jennifer Broughton, CGFO—Director

Kendra Dove —Director

Carrie Johnson, CMC, CPFA, MBL —Director

**Larry Sapp, CGFO—SC State Representative to
GFOA National**

**Kevin V. Yokim, CPA, CGFO— Immediate
Past President**



ANNOUNCEMENT

During 2011 Cherry, Bekaert & Holland (CB&H) presented their hugely successful inaugural Government Benchmarking Study, which was designed to capture and identify significant trends on timely issues relevant to local government entities. We learned:

- ◆ Employee benefits are not the same selling point they used to be
- ◆ There is a growing concern for the importance of transparency with regard to intergovernmental dependency
- ◆ Technology will be extremely important as a way to help control costs
- ◆ Governments are social media savvy
- ◆ Green initiatives are in
- ◆ ARRA had a favorable impact
- ◆ Despite budgetary concerns, stable tax rates are expected for the near term

If you weren't a part of this groundbreaking survey, why not?! However, don't despair, our 2nd annual survey is launching in January 2013. Mark your calendars and watch your e-mails so you don't miss out again. If you'd like to be added to our survey mailing list, please contact Jessica Marsh at JMarsh@cbh.com.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The GFOASC will be offering two academic scholarships again this year. The **Willa S. Bellamy Scholarship**, in the amount of **\$1500**, will be awarded to a college student who attends a public four-year college or university. The **Founding Fathers Scholarship**, in the amount of **\$1000**, will be awarded to a college student who attends a public two-year college or university. These scholarships will be awarded at the GFOASC Fall Conference in October 2013.

Submission Deadline: Applications must be received on or before May 1, 2013.

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 Spring Conference on April 29, 2013.

Submission Deadline: Applications must be received on or before April 12, 2013.

Please visit (www.gfoasc.org) to download an application. The complete application should be submitted to the following address:

Government Finance Officers Association of South Carolina

Attn: Scholarship Committee Chair

P O Box 8840 Columbia, SC 29202

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 !