



# GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS

## THE GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH CAROLINA NEWSLETTER

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### 2012 SPRING CONFERENCE IS COMING

#### Spring Conference Chair ~ William Hall

The 2012 Spring Conference Committee is hard at work to bring fellow members a wonderful and exciting Spring Conference. The conference will be held on Monday, May 7, 2012 at the

Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. The theme for the Spring Conference is *“Navigating for the Future”*. The committee is glad to announce, the closing speaker for the confer-

ence will be a person that is Educational, Motivational and Hilarious she is, Glenda Doles! Look for the 2012 Spring Attendance Registration form late January, 2012. Register early!

**William Hall, Chair**

Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center  
1101 Lincoln Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

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

### 2011 Fall Conference Recap, Chair-President Elect ~Kevin Yokim

The 2011 Fall Conference was a rousing success. 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”. Congratulations and a big thank you to the Fall Conference Committee. We began meeting in February and spent many hours (and thousands of emails) in planning and preparation for the conference. There were also a lot of good comments about the speakers. Dr. Fred Carter started us off with a historical review of the past five Governors’ leadership. Dr. Carter’s stories were a great personal touch. Governor Campbell’s response to Hurricane Hugo was particularly moving. Mike Fanning (ROAR) received many positive comments, as did Mike Shealy, Mark Hobbs, Larry Finney, and Ben Rast. Phil Gaines,

Director of State Parks gave us some great insight into how his department has dealt with the budget cuts over the past several years. Pretty much everyone loved the new facility. The Marriott was a great place to have the conference and the hotel staff did a great job. Being right on the beach was definitely a plus. Several attendees mentioned that we need to sign a long-term contract with this facility. The only negative was the rain. (Actually, part of that was a positive—more people attended sessions instead of hitting the beach in the afternoons.) We promise to do a better job with the weather next year. Speaking of next year—go ahead and put next year’s conference on your calendar. The dates are October 7-10, 2012. (I am writing this on November 30th, meaning the 2012 Fall Conference is only 312

days away!) We will be returning to the same great location. Debbie M. Walker, 2012 GFOASC President-Elect and Fall Conference Chair, has already begun thinking and planning for another great conference. If you are willing to help Debbie out by serving on the Fall 2012 Conference Committee, please let her know. For those of you who attended the 2011 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.

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



**2012 GFOASC Spring Conference Closing Speaker**

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## Dates to Remember:

Spring Conference

May 7, 2012

Fall Conference

October 7-10, 2012

Myrtle Beach, SC

## FROM YOUR PRESIDENT ~ BILLY R. MARTIN, CGFO

**Holiday Greetings from GFOASC,** I have had a wonderful time serving as President in 2011 and as President-Elect in 2010. One of our goals is to provide government finance professionals a place to continue their professional education at a reasonable cost. One way that we are able to do this is through the support of our sponsors during our Spring and Fall Conference. I hope each of you have thanked them for their support of our organization. Without this support, we could not do these conferences at our current registration fee. Thank you for your support for GFOASC during 2011. Thank you to all who supported GFOASC this year as members, class and conference attendees, committee members, and board members. Also thank you to the active CGFO's and the new CGFO's this year. I encourage each of you that are not certified to work to become certified. It is worth it and many employers are looking for this certification as they employ finance professionals. I have enjoyed meeting and talking with you about GFOASC this year. We have accomplished many things this year with the following meetings and provided more than 54 CPE hours this year : On May 2, 2011, we had the 2011 GFOASC Spring Confer-

ence (Building Opportunities From Adversity) in Columbia at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. Sarah Sullivan and her committee did an outstanding job planning the 2011 Spring Conference with 6 CPE hours. Also, on October 9-12, 2011, we had the 2011 GFOASC Fall Conference (An Opportunity for Leadership) in Myrtle Beach at the Marriott Grande Dunes Hotel. This was our first year at the hotel. Kevin Yokim and his committee did an excellent job planning the 2011 Fall Conference with 16 hours of quality CPE hours. This was a great location for our fall conference. Please provide the board with your comments or suggestions as future conference locations are discussed by the board. The CGFO Certification program for 2010-2011 started in September 2010 and ended in May 2011. The University of South Carolina provides the educational classes for our certification program. We had **(8)** members earn their designation as CGFO in 2011. We have issued **237** certifications, since the start of the program. The 2011-2012 CGFO Certification program has already started in September and will end in May 2012. I hope more members will take advantage of this opportunity to get quality educational hours. We had

the following Continuing Professional Education (CPE) classes at Seawell's for 8 CPE hours each: June 22, 2011 – Ethics, Risk & Fraud; July 19, 2011 – Preparing a CAFR; August 19, 2011 – Accounting for Pensions and OPEB; November 4, 2011 – Enterprise Risk Management. This has been a busy and exciting year for the Government Finance Officers Association of South Carolina (GFOASC). This organization is yours and it is up to each of us as Finance Officers of our organizations, to provide the LEADERSHIP needed during these very difficult economic times. You have made this a great year for our organization and it has been my pleasure serving as your president this year. I will continue to serve the organization as Past President during 2012. I will be an active member and support GFOASC for many years. GFOASC is in great hands with Kevin Yokim, 2012 GFOASC President and the 2012 Board Members. I hope to see each of you at future meetings.

**Billy R. Martin, CGFO,**  
2011 GFOASC President



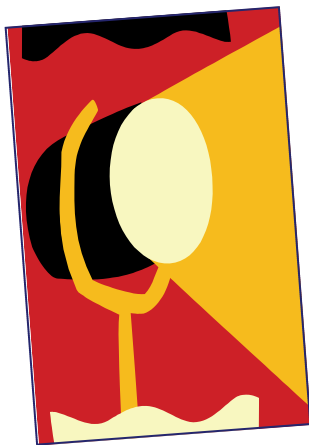
## 2012 New GFOASC Board Members

At the 2011 Fall Conference, four new board members were elected, Debbie M. Walker-President-Elect, Sarah Sullivan-Treasurer, Jennifer Broughton-Board Member, and Angie McInchok-Board Member. Debbie currently serves as the Associate Vice President for Business Affairs at Midlands Technical College. She has been a GFOASC Board Member for the past two years, has chaired the Spring Conference Committee in the past, and has served on the Fall Conference Committee. Debbie has also been responsible for producing and publishing the Fall Conference program for at least the past two years. Sarah is the Chief Financial Officer for the Richland County Library. She has been a GFOASC Board Member for the past year,

chaired the 2011 GFOASC Spring Conference Committee, and has served on the Fall Conference Committee. Sarah has been a gracious host for numerous board and conference committee meetings at the library. Jennifer Broughton currently serves on the SCEIS Finance Team. She has served on both the Spring and Fall Conference Committees in the past. Jennifer has been the head decorator for the Fall Conference Sunday night reception and the Tuesday night banquet for the past couple of years. Angie is the Deputy Treasurer for Lexington County. She has served on the Fall Conference Committee for the past two years and was responsible for organizing the registration table for the 2010 Fall conference.

Please join me in welcoming these new officers. I look forward to working with them in 2012. Three officers' terms will end at the end of this year; Stacey Hamm-Past President, Debra Rountree-Treasurer, and Vicki Bowles-Board Member. Please join me in thanking them for their willingness to serve GFOASC and what they each contributed to our organization.

**Kevin V. Yokim, CPA, CGFO**  
**Florence County Finance Director**  
**GFOASC President-Elect**



## Update from your State Representative ~ Dennis Locke

Thank you for allowing me to attend the 105<sup>th</sup> GFOA Annual Conference in San Antonio, Texas this past May. The conference theme was “Navigating the New Normal in Government Finance.” If you have never attended a national conference, I would encourage you to include in your budget the resources to attend. The training sessions offered are directly applicable to governmental finance, providing unparalleled professional development for niche knowledge and skill building, and the chance to share our achievements and progress in making meaningful differences in our communities inspires us to improve. We are also able to use this time to invite vendors that are relevant to the government sector to attend and support our annual conference.

### **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*. 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 (864) 596-2059 or email [dlocke@cityofspartanburg.org](mailto:dlocke@cityofspartanburg.org). **Dennis Locke, CGFO**, SC State Representative to GFOA National



## 2012 Continuing Professional Education Opportunities

By Michael Thom ~Chairman, Program Committee

The 2012 Continuing Professional Education Opportunities have not been finalized. 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 one day CPE classes, the association also holds a spring and fall conference every year. The spring conference will be held on May 7, 2012. The spring conference will once again be held at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, Columbia. The fall conference will be held in October 2012 at the Marriott Grande Dunes, Myrtle Beach. 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. **Michael Thom, CGFO**, Chairman, Program Committee



# GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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(803) 359-4892 Fax

## 2012 OFFICERS

**Kevin V. Yokim, CGFO—President**  
**Debbie M. Walker, CGFO—President-Elect**  
**Sarah Sullivan, CGFO—Treasurer**  
**Crystal Burr, CGFO—Secretary**  
**Vacant—Director**  
**Michael Thom, CGFO—Director**  
**Angie McInchok, CGFO—Director**  
**Jennifer Broughton, CGFO—Director**  
**Dennis Locke, CGFO—SC State Representative to GFOA National**  
**Billy R. Martin, CGFO— Immediate Past President**



### Treasurer's Report~ Sarah Sullivan, CGFO

I would like to say thank you for the opportunity to be your Association's treasurer. I appreciate your confidence in me. I have now been initiated into the role and am excited to begin my responsibility. As of December 5, 2011, the Association had \$14,610 in the bank. The Association is showing a net loss of \$10,594. This is not year-end information as year-end reconciliations have not been completed yet. That information will be available in the next newsletter. Invoices for the 2012 annual membership dues will be sent in January. In order to maintain certifications and attend conferences and classes at a membership rate, members must be in good standing with no balances outstanding. If you have any questions about whether you have an outstanding balance due or need an invoice for membership, conferences, or CPE classes, please contact me at [ssullivan@myrcpl.com](mailto:ssullivan@myrcpl.com). **Reminder:** Please review your information in MemberClicks and update if necessary. If there are others in your organizations who aren't members, please encourage them to join.



## 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 7, 2012.

**Submission Deadline: Applications must be received on or before April 16, 2012.**

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 2012.

**Submission Deadline: Applications must be received on or before August 31, 2012.**

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