



**January 25, 2013**

**Training**

Check calendar and register online.

**Employment Opportunities**

See openings or add an announcement.

**VGFOA Certificate Program**

Course content & requirements.

**Membership Directory**

Contact someone, or update your information online.

**VGFOA Board**

Meet your Board, see committee assignments, and make contact.

**Do you have a story to share?**

Submit an article to the **Editor** for a future newsletter.

**VGFOA's Strategic Plan**

Directions for the future.

**President's Message**

I hope that everyone had a wonderful Christmas and New Years! 2013 is off to a great start and your VGFOA Board has been busy since my last message to you in the November 2012 Newsletter.

The VGFOA quarterly Board meeting was held December 13-14, 2012, at the Short Pump Hilton Hotel in Henrico, Virginia. The VGFOA Board adopted the 2013 budget, discussed organizational goals for 2013 and presented committee reports. The Board also toured the Hilton conference facilities. As many of you know, our 2014, 2016 and 2018 Fall Conferences will be held at the Short Pump Hilton Hotel.

The VGFOA Board's next quarterly Board meeting is scheduled for March 13-15th, 2013, at the Wintergreen Resort. We plan to accomplish several tasks at this Board meeting including updating the VGFOA Strategic Plan, providing progress reports on 2013 goals, making committee presentations and engaging in team building activities.

Our 2013 VGFOA Spring Conference will be held at the Hilton Virginia Beach Oceanfront Hotel from May 22-24, 2013. Conference information and registration for attendees and vendors is available at the [VGFOA website](#). Vendors interested in participating in the conference can contact Terrie Pyeatt at [Terrie.Pyeatt@VBSchools.com](mailto:Terrie.Pyeatt@VBSchools.com).

This is our last year that our Spring Conference will be held at the Hilton Virginia Beach Oceanfront Hotel. We are expecting record attendance at the Hilton so please register early for the conference. The Spring Conference location moves to the Cavalier Hotel in May 2014.

One of my challenges to you at the 2012 Fall Conference was to send someone new from your organization to a VGFOA Conference who has never attended one of our conferences. The 2013 VGFOA Spring Conference is the perfect opportunity to meet this challenge. Please send someone new to the Spring Conference so that they may begin

[Renew Membership](#)

enjoying the networking opportunities and incredible training that is offered at our conferences. The friendships and relationships that are established while attending our conferences are priceless.

[VGFOA Announcements & News](#)

See the latest updates and news.

Charles

[National GFOA on the Web](#)

Visit now.

**New Board Member Spotlight, Sharon Day**

Part of welcoming new VGFOA Executive Board members is sharing their background information with the Membership. The November 2012 Newsletter introduced new Board member Kathy Seay; this edition spotlights Sharon Day who also joined the Board in October 2012. Information on other current Board Members was provided in the November 2010 and January 2012 newsletter editions which are available in the [VGFOA Archives](#).

[VGFOA Listserve](#)

Discuss and exchange information with the membership

Sharon chairs VGFOA’s Conferences Committee and is the Chief of Budget and Financial Reporting for York County. Prior to joining the County in 2003, Sharon worked for ten years for several national and regional public accounting firms, primarily focusing on audits of local governments. She has been an active member of the VGFOA since 2003, having served on the Conference and Education committees, and helped develop and instruct the first “How to Prepare a CAFR” VGFOA Certificate course in 2010.

[Communications Committee](#)

[Greg Akers](#)– Chair  
[Kathleen Ault](#)  
[Curtis Doughtie](#)

Sharon earned a Master of Science in Accounting from Old Dominion University and a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Christopher Newport University. She is a Certified Public Accountant. Sharon lives in historic Williamsburg with her husband, Bill, and two children: Caitlyn (11) and Colin (9).

**VGFOA**  
**2013 Spring**  
**Conference**  
**Virginia Beach**  
**May 22-24, 2013**



## **Spring Conference Keynote Speaker - Carine McCandless**



Carine McCandless is the sister of literary icon Alexander Supertramp, a.k.a. Alexander Supertramp, whose life story has captured the hearts of millions of people around the world. Her input was crucial to the development of Jon Krakauer's international best seller, *Into the Wild*. Krakauer endorses Carine as "a gifted communicator; she is engaging, inspiring, and bracingly outspoken." *Into the Wild* spent a remarkable 119 straight weeks on *The New York Times* best seller list, is printed in 28 languages, and is required reading at universities in countries all over the globe including the United States, the United Kingdom, Italy, Germany, Canada, and France.

Carine also worked closely with Academy Award-winning actor and writer/director Sean Penn for his critically acclaimed film adaptation of *Into The Wild*. An accomplished writer, Carine received screen credit for her script contributions and narrative throughout the film, working alongside Penn, celebrated poet Sharon Olds, and actress Jena Malone, who portrays Carine in *Into the Wild*. Carine worked as a direct consultant to Sean Penn and provided valuable insight to many of the actors, including protagonist Emile Hirsch and Academy Award winner Marcia Gay Harden.

Carine has been interviewed for such widely read publications as Outside magazine, The New Yorker and the Los Angeles Times. She has appeared on such national television programs as The Oprah Winfrey Show, Sunday Morning, and ABC News 20/20.

Carine McCandless has a unique skill set that lends itself well to a wide variety of lecture topics and presentations. As a successful self-made entrepreneur since the age of nineteen, Carine has twenty years of experience as a conservative businesswoman and frequently shares her experience at corporate engagements and retreats. A favorite of universities, many of which have integrated Into the Wild into their coursework, she is an enduring voice for Chris McCandless and his legacy, inspiring the next generation to lead lives of conviction. From her own experiences as a survivor of domestic violence, to parenting a child with special needs, Carine will inspire listeners to overcome obstacles and adversity with the power of a positive attitude. She speaks with the loving support of her six other siblings: Sam, Stacy, Shawna, Shelly, Shannon, and Quinn.

Like her brother, Carine is passionate about helping those less fortunate. She supports a number of international and domestic charities that champion causes such as nature and wildlife conservation and human rights advocacy. Her most current philanthropic interest is with the non-profit organization Assisi House, where she volunteers as Development Chair.

### **Have You Renewed Your VGFOA Membership for 2013?**

**Invoices were emailed in late November 2012 with payment due by January 31, 2013. Membership renewals not paid by the January 31 due date will be assessed a \$10 late penalty on February 1.** Members who do not renew for 2013 by February 1 will be dropped from the Membership and no longer receive Membership benefits, such as Member pricing on registration fees. New members joining after February 1 will not be assessed a late fee. Online renewal is available at <http://www.vgfoa.org/memberapp.html>.

### **GFOA Scholarship Programs**

The GFOA will administer four scholarship programs available for award in the Spring of 2013. Application deadline is February 22, 2013, with awards announced on April 30, 2013.

- **Daniel B. Goldberg Scholarship** of \$10,000 is available to a full-time graduate student pursuing an advanced degree preparing for a career in state or local government finance.
- **Frank L. Greathouse Government Accounting Scholarship** of \$5,000 (each award) is available for award to two undergraduate or graduate students enrolled in full-time study preparing for a career in state and local government finance.
- **Minorities in Government Finance Scholarship** of \$5,000 is available for award to an upper-division undergraduate or graduate student of public administration, (governmental) accounting, finance, political science, economics, or business administration (with a specific focus on government or nonprofit management).
- **Government Finance Professional Development Scholarship** of \$5,000 (each award) is available for award to four students enrolled in part-time graduate study that are employees of a state or local government and are preparing to continue their career in state and local government finance.

Additional information and applications are available at [GFOA of the US & Canada - Available Scholarships](#).

### **Seeking Members for the 4 Regional Organization Committees**

Do you enjoy attending the Regional Events in your area or across the State? There are 4 [Regional Organization committees](#) - Central, Hampton Roads, Northern Virginia, and Southwest - serving the VGFOA. These groups provide half to whole day regional education events, and encourage networking with finance professionals in your region. We are seeking additional VGFOA members to become involved in the various Regional Organization Committees, and participate in developing educational opportunities to benefit the VGFOA membership. Please contact Renee Hoover ([rhoover@albemarle.org](mailto:rhoover@albemarle.org)) if you have an interest.

### **Are you LinkedIn?**

Some VGFOA members already use [Linkedin](#) to keep in touch with colleagues. The [Communications Committee](#) is currently gauging the interest of VGFOA members in joining a LinkedIn “group”. The Committee is also continuing to seek members with an interest in developing VGFOA’s use of social media. To learn more, or receive an

invitation to join VGFOA's LinkedIn group, contact Greg Akers, Communications Chair, at [grega@the-rma.org](mailto:grega@the-rma.org).

### **VGFOA Central Regional Training Event Scheduled for Friday, March 8, 2013**

The VGFOA Central Regional Organization is having a training event scheduled for Friday, March 8, 2013, from 9:00am – 3:00pm at the Henrico County Training Center. Topics include an Employment Tax Overview, FEMA Reimbursement Procedures and Best Practices, GASB Update, Accounting & Auditing Update and a VRS Update. Event cost is \$35 and includes a continental breakfast, lunch and snacks. Registration is available through the [VGFOA Calendar of Events](#) and is limited to 100 participants. If you have any questions regarding the training please contact Clarence Daniel at [dan@co.henrico.va.us](mailto:dan@co.henrico.va.us).

### **VGFO Certificate Now Available To Associate Members**

The [Virginia Government Finance Officers Certificate Program \(VGFOC\)](#) was established by the Radford University's [Governmental and Nonprofit Assistance Center \(GNAC\)](#) and VGFOA to provide training in key areas for finance professionals working in state and local governments. While Associate Members could previously participate in Certificate classes, and have made significant contributions to course development and instruction, they were not eligible to be awarded a Certificate. Based on an [Education Committee](#) recommendation, the VGFOA Board on December 14, 2012, amended the [VGFOA Policies and Procedures](#) to make all classes of VGFOA membership eligible for the VGFOC Program. We look forward to seeing who will be our first Associate Member to obtain the Certificate.

### **2013 VGFOA Certificate Courses**

Certificate Course class fees for VGFOA and Treasurer's Association of Virginia (TAV) members are still \$225 per participant (\$275 for non-members). Online course fees are \$125. Online registration is available on the [Calendar of Events](#).

2013 Dates	Event	Location
February 7-8	Grants Management	Fairfax
February 14-15	Virginia Government & Law	Roanoke
March 7-8	Virginia Government & Law	Fairfax
April 4-5	Grants Management	Henrico
April 18-19	Operating & Capital Budgeting	Fairfax
April 18-19	Internal Controls, Auditing & Fraud	Newport News
May 16-17	Cash Management & Banking	Roanoke
May 16-17	How to Prepare a CAFR	Hanover
May 30-31	Leadership	Chesapeake
June 13-14	Pension, Risk Management & Procurement	Hanover
June 20-21	Advanced Governmental Accounting	Fairfax
June 27-28	Short Term Investments	Roanoke
July 18-19	Operating & Capital Budgeting	Henrico
August 1-2	Issuing Debt & Debt Management	Fairfax
December 5-6	Intermediate Governmental Accounting	Chesapeake
December 12-13	Advanced Governmental Accounting	Roanoke

Online courses are available for:

- Introduction to Governmental Accounting
- Internal Controls, Auditing, and Fraud
- Intermediate Accounting

*The Virginia Government Finance Officers' Association shall be the premier organization in developing leaders with financial and management expertise through education, fellowship and professional development to foster excellence in government.*