



**April 4, 2011**

**Training**

Check calendar and register on-line.

**Employment Opportunities**

See openings or add an announcement.

**VGFOA Certification 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.

**Renew Membership**

**President's Message**

Hello VGFOA Members,

With the VGFOA Spring Conference approaching quickly the Executive Board met a couple weeks ago in Richmond to put final touches on the plans for the upcoming conference as well as provide committee updates and share ideas for the future. I thoroughly enjoyed the energy and enthusiasm of all of the board members who have worked very hard to provide outstanding and amazingly comprehensive services to our membership.

This year's VGFOA Spring conference will be held **June 8-10, 2011**, at the Hilton Virginia Beach Oceanfront Hotel which is a couple of weeks later than our last few conferences due to the May National GFOA conference timing. While we have certainly enjoyed very beautiful weather in May, as I write this message with winter not quite a memory yet, June in Virginia Beach is a very pleasant and welcoming thought.

Renee Hoover, our Conference Committee chair has done an extraordinary job bringing fresh new speakers while maintaining the high quality technical presentations that we have become accustomed to experiencing. Please take a few moments to look at the agenda which you will see filled with interesting topics ([http://www.vgfoa.org/2011\\_Spring\\_Conference/program.html](http://www.vgfoa.org/2011_Spring_Conference/program.html)). The keynote speaker is Dr. Peter Ronayne of the Federal Executive Institute (FEI). The Federal Executive Institute is dedicated to developing career leaders for the Federal Government. His areas of specialty include American diplomatic history, humanitarian intervention, morality and foreign policy, global leadership, and issues of values, leadership, public service in the 21st century and generational difference. Dr. Ronayne is a leading voice in the public sector on generational and demographic issues and their impact on leadership and organizations. He will be speaking on the topic "The Trusted Leader: Leadership in the Age of Turbulence". He will discuss how, in an era of unprecedented change and complex challenge, one currency is more

Dues overdue? Renew your membership today.

**[VGFOA Announcements & News](#)**

See the latest updates and news.

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**[Communication & Technology Committee](#)  
[Tanya Burrell](#) – Chair  
[Nancy Tracy](#)**

important than ever to leaders and organizations: trust. Please join me in welcoming Dr. Ronayne to our conference.

In these tough economic times it is as important as ever that we keep our training and certifications up to date. As always, VGFOA has a great lineup of classes and regional events scheduled for this year. In addition to our two conferences, there are currently twenty classes or regional events scheduled from April through December. Be sure to check out the training and calendar drop downs on our homepage for more information.

Enjoy your spring and I hope to see many of you at the VGFOA conference at the beach and at the GFOA conference in San Antonio.

Respectfully submitted,  
Vivian McGettigan, MBA, CPA, CIA, CPFO  
VGFOA President

**VGFOA Spring Conference...VA Beach  
June 8 – 10, 2011**

Please join us in VA Beach on Jun 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> for the Spring Conference. You can earn 15 CPE at an early registration fee of \$195 plus take the VSCPA Ethics course for \$60 all in one place while networking with colleagues across the state. Below are just some of the speakers and topics that will be at the conference.

<b>Speakers</b>	<b>Topics</b>
James Lock	Applying Private Sector Best Practices in the Public Sector: How you can Improve Cashflow
Walter Kucharski	Update from Auditor of Public Accounts
John Hanson	Preventing, Detecting & Responding to Fraud
Cindi Jones	Healthcare Pulse: Health Reform in VA
Connie Jones	Understanding the Line of Duty Act
Joe Casey	Relationship Building Strategies with Locally Elected Officials
Eldon James, Dean Lynch, Michael Maul	Legislative Updates
Susan Dewey	The Changing Housing Environment: Implications for the Local Restate Tax Base
Barry Faison	VRS Updates for Local Government

New this year at the conference is a “**Meet the Exhibitors**” contest, in which you can win prizes. Go to the VGFOA website to register and check out this year’s exhibitors and sponsors and a full program line up. Check back frequently for the attendee roster.

## **Annual GFOA Conference Update**

The second conference discount deadline is **April 12, 2011**, for the GFOA’s 105th annual conference. The conference is May 22-25, 2011, at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio, Texas. You can register early at [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org). VGFOA is very excited to announce that BB&T Capital will once again sponsor a breakfast at the GFOA Conference for the Virginia delegation.

## **VGFOA Courses Now On-line!**

Starting this month VGFOA will offer an on-line option for certain courses through Radford University’s Government and Non-Profit Assistance Center (GNAC). You must register through the VGFOA to take the courses (go to the Calendar at [www.vgfoa.org](http://www.vgfoa.org) to register). Fees are \$125 per class and once you register with VGFOA an email is automatically sent to GNAC notifying them that you are enrolled. GNAC will then email an ID and password to log on to their website and take the course.

Pre-recorded PowerPoint slide presentations with multiple sections are viewed on-line. The slides can be printed in advance for reference and making notes while taking classes. Prior to starting the exam, you can come and go from the presentation at any time. The on-line ability to start, stop, or replay provide the flexibility to fit your scheduling needs, while eliminating travel costs associated with traditional courses. There are assessment questions by section to verify you are gaining an understanding of the material. After successfully completing the assessments for all sections, you can take the course exam. There is a two hour time limit for the exam and you only have one attempt. VGFOA’s Education Committee and GNAC anticipate expanding availability of on-line courses in future years. The two initial course offerings are described below.

**Introduction to Governmental Accounting** - Designed to introduce governmental accounting practices to “non-accountants”. This course does not qualify for credit under VGFOA’s certificate program, and those with accounting experience should consider starting with the Intermediate Governmental Accounting course (part of certificate

program). Course sections consist of accounting and financial statement elements, effects of transactions, debits and credits, recording information and funds, and budgets and the CAFR.

**Internal Controls, Auditing and Fraud** - This course does qualify for credit under VGFOA's certificate program (<http://www.vgfoa.org/certificate.html>) and provides an on-line option to the live seminar class periodically offered. Course sections cover evaluating internal controls, detecting fraud, signs of embezzlement, and GFOA best practices.

### **VGFOA Hampton Roads Regional Training Event Scheduled for April 2011**

The VGFOA Hampton Roads Regional Organization has a training event scheduled for Thursday, April 14, 2011 from 7:30am – 9:00am at the Quality Inn Lake Wright. The topic is “Governmental Budgeting.” The event cost is \$10 for VGFOA members and \$14 for non-members and includes a buffet breakfast. Registration is available through the VGFOA Regional Organization Calendar website at [www.vgfoa.org](http://www.vgfoa.org). Please contact Rhonda Sommer at [rsommer@cityofchesapeake.net](mailto:rsommer@cityofchesapeake.net) if you have any questions regarding the training.

### **VGFOA Southwest Regional Training Event Scheduled for April 2011**

The VGFOA Southwest Regional Organization has a training event scheduled for Wednesday, April 27, 2011 from 9:00am – 3:45pm at the Salem Civic Center. Topics include sessions on GASB, Single Audit changes, 1099 Best Practices, Banking and other Local Government topics. The event cost is \$20 and includes lunch and morning and afternoon refreshments. Registration is available through the VGFOA Regional Organization Calendar website at [www.vgfoa.org](http://www.vgfoa.org). If you have any questions regarding the training please contact Debbie White at [dwhite@co.augusta.va.us](mailto:dwhite@co.augusta.va.us).

### **VGFOA Central Regional Training Event Scheduled for May 2011**

The VGFOA Central Regional Organization has a training event scheduled for Friday, May 6, 2011, from 8:30am – 3:00pm at the Henrico County Training Center. Topics include sessions on GASB,

and various Accounting and Auditing topics. The event is free and includes continental breakfast, lunch and afternoon snacks. Registration is available through the VGFOA Regional Organization Calendar website at [www.vgfoa.org](http://www.vgfoa.org). If you have any questions regarding the training please contact Clarence Daniel at [dan@co.henrico.va.us](mailto:dan@co.henrico.va.us).

### **VGFOA NOVA Regional Training Event Scheduled for June 2011**

The VGFOA NOVA Regional Organization has a training event scheduled for Friday, June 3, 2011 from 12pm – 4pm at the Fairfax County Government Center. The topic is “Using Dashboards to More Effectively Manage Information – Best Practices and State-of-the Art Web Tools.” The event is free and includes lunch provided by AMS. Registration will be available through the VGFOA Regional Organization Calendar website at [www.vgfoa.org](http://www.vgfoa.org). Please contact Janet Romanchyk at [janet.romanchyk@fauquiercounty.gov](mailto:janet.romanchyk@fauquiercounty.gov) if you have any questions regarding the training.

### **VGFOA Certificate Program Course Scholarships**

Is attaining the VGFOA certificate one of your New Year’s resolutions? Or, are you now in the middle of the certificate program, with three or four courses under your belt, but your locality is still facing budget woes, and funds for employee travel and training are nonexistent?

VGFOA’s Certificate Program Course scholarship may be just the answer. For several years, VGFOA has been offering, on a competitive basis, scholarships to attend one of the upcoming VGFOA certificate program courses. This year’s certificate course scholarship program offers five individual course scholarships, each valued at \$225. The certificate course scholarships are good for up to one year after award and winners are free to choose any VGFOA certificate course offered during that time period. VGFOA membership is required to apply for the certificate course scholarships. Additional information concerning VGFOA’s certificate program course scholarship and the application form is available on VGFOA’s website at [www.vgfog.org](http://www.vgfog.org). The application deadline is April 15, 2011.

*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.*