



June 20, 2019

Training

Check calendar and register on-line.

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.

Renew Membership

President's Message



I'd like to start by extending condolences to all of those impacted by the mass shooting in Virginia Beach on May 31. It is my hope that the families, friends, and co-workers of the victims can find comfort as they grieve and process this senseless tragedy.

There is no easy transition from such a difficult topic, but I will continue on a much lighter note: we had a great turnout for our Spring conference at the Hilton Main in Norfolk in early May – over 380 registered attendees, our largest conference ever. Thank you to everyone who attended, presented, or helped plan another successful conference. If you missed a session, all presentations are now available on our website.

It seems far away but our Fall conference will be here before you know it. This year we'll be at the Omni Richmond Hotel in downtown Richmond from October 9-11. We're excited to be in a new location and are busy planning our conference agenda. Keep an eye out for an upcoming announcement on registration.

Please let me or any of the VGFOA Board members know what we can do to continue to support you. Have a great summer!

VGFOA
Announcements &
News

See the latest updates and news.

National GFOA on
the Web

Visit now.

Join the conversation at:

Linked in or

VGFOA Listserv

Discuss and exchange information with the membership

Report from the Spring Conference



Over 380 members attended the Spring Conference in Norfolk, VA. Members enjoyed Lynda McNutt Foster’s keynote session: “Embracing the Pressure When the Pressure is On” which included group discussions and interaction. Other topics covered included the Virginia economic forecast, GASB 87 lease implementation, Fraud and Internal Controls and the ever-popular Rating Agency panel discussion. Attendees were treated to exhibits by 34 sponsors with related services for local governments. New this year was a longer snack break on Friday instead of a boxed lunch. What a great way to network with your peers and earn CPE credit at the same time. You won’t want to miss the Fall Conference in Richmond this October. Read on to learn more.

Fall Conference Information



SAVE THE DATE – FALL VGFOA CONFERENCE

RICHMOND OMNI HOTEL

Conveniently located in downtown Richmond. Easy to get to and newly renovated. Don't miss it!
OCTOBER 9-11, 2019

Registration will open at the end of June. Go to the web site for more details. Hotel reservations for the Omni will be held until September 11.

GFOA's 113th Annual Conference in LA



Several Virginians and 5,000 others attended the GFOA's 113th annual conference in Los Angeles from May 19 – 22. We learned many things – like it does rain in California, May in Los Angeles is not all that warm, and the Hollywood walk of fame, where movie premieres roll out the red carpet, is not as glamorous in real life.

The conference featured over 75 classes spread over 4 days. Special highlights were the keynote speakers. On Sunday, Charmaine Brown, a diversity and inclusion expert showed some very thought-provoking videos, and challenged us to transform our thinking. On Monday, James and Deborah Fallows shared their perspective from visiting and interviewing folks at over 500 small cities and towns across the United States about what makes communities thrive. One interesting point was after you ask someone's name, the second question in the conversation varies from location to location. In some places it's "what church do you attend?" In St. Louis, it's "what high school did you go to?" What's the second question in your area? They regaled us with uplifting tales of what works to create communities across the country.

Virginians enjoyed a State breakfast at the JW Marriott hotel, sponsored by VGFOA, Davenport and Company, and Brown Edwards and Company, on Tuesday morning, before hurrying over to see our own Terry Stone, newly elected President of GFOA. We are so proud to have a member of VGFOA to serve as President of our international organization.

If you have never attended a national conference, there is a special conference fee for first time attendees. It's a great experience!

VGFOA is Proud of our GFOA President



VGFOA is proud to recognize current GFOA President, Terry Stone, a long-time contributor to VGFOA where she served as President from 2005-06. Terry is currently the Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations for Hanover County Public Schools. She has had a long and distinguished career in government finance including Assistant Superintendent in Henrico County Public Schools and Chief Financial Officer for Williamsburg James City County Schools. She has also served on school boards, boards of supervisors and chaired the GFOA Treasury and Investment Management Committee.

Terry's focus over the next year as President is to:

- Expand student chapters
- Attract more school division members to GFOA
- Update GFOA's website to include on-demand web-based training
- Expand training opportunities
- Create an implementation guide for GFOA's new Code of Ethics.

Terry's keynote speech focused on her goals and also on our challenges as finance officers to work on the issue of infrastructure age and replacement. As part of that, she called on us to contact our US Senators and Representatives to encourage them to protect full tax-exemption for municipal bonds and restore advance refundings. We look forward to Terry's term and support her outstanding contributions to the profession.

GFOA's First Student Chapter Virginia Tech

Virginia Tech launched the first GFOA Student Chapter at the end of March. Those attending the event included: Jill Underwood, VGFOA President Elect; Amelia Merchant, GFOA Board Member; Timothy Martin, GFOA Membership Engagement, Virginia Tech students and faculty, and several others. Alberto Jaimes is the chapter's first president and was instrumental in launching the chapter. The chapter was also recognized at the 113th Annual Conference in Los Angeles.



Committee Update

VGFOA committee work is in full swing planning conferences and other events. Click on the link above entitled “VGFOA Board” to learn more about what the committees do and who to contact to get involved. Most groups meet by phone, and even a small time commitment can help VGFOA and help you to make valuable contacts and give you practical experience.

The VGFOA Executive Board Needs You!



VGFOA members are the bench strength of our organization. By actively participating on committees, members have an opportunity to work with other members as well as current and past board members; this collaboration allows members to gain valuable experience and knowledge which can not only enhance their careers, but also can help them to become excellent candidates to serve on the board.

Members are asked to use the [VGFOA Executive Board Nomination Form](#) to submit names to the Nominating Committee for consideration for Board service that will best serve VGFOA. The Nominating Committee presents its recommended slate to the Executive Board for approval, and then presents the approved slate to the membership at the Annual Business meeting. This year, the Annual Business Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 10, 2019 at the Omni Richmond Hotel in Richmond, Virginia.

Nominations are being accepted for positions of President-Elect (October 2019-October 2020), Treasurer (October 2019-October 2022), two Board Members with 3 year terms (October 2019 to October 2022), and two Board Members with 1 year terms (October 2019-2020).

Deadline for submitting completed forms to Diane Bergeron, dbergeron@ci.manassas.va.us, is **Friday, August 30, 2019**.

Looking for Ways to up your Game?

There are a variety of online sources to help you learn more about governmental accounting and to help you implement best practices. First is the VGFOA list serve. Members post questions and get answers on a variety of topics. Meet VGFOA members who have the same day-to-day issues that you have and who have developed practical solution they want to share. Sign up at the VGFOA web site under the “Members” banner.

Are you a member of GFOA? The GFOA web site is a wealth of information from training classes, certificate programs and information on GFOA-recommended best practices. They also send members a weekly newsletter with latest developments and best practices. Click on the GFOA web site link above to explore.

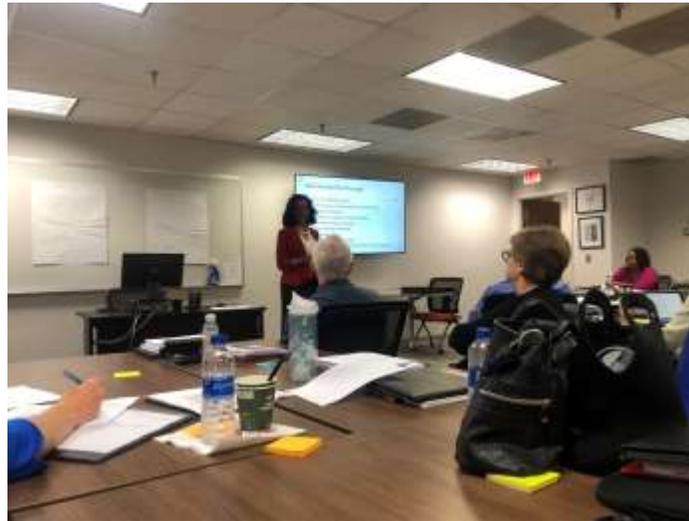
Virginia Award Recipient

Stacey Wilkes, Director of Finance for Amherst County has received a \$10,000 GFOA Professional Development Scholarship funded by the GFOA Scholarship Reserve to cover graduate level study with a focus on local government and finance. Stacey has been in her position for three years and is working on her MPA at Virginia Tech. Way to go!

Professional Development Program

The Professional Development Program administered by Virginia Tech is going really well! On June 11th we held a session in Richmond titled Financial Resiliency & Innovation. Join us for upcoming events in different parts of the state:

September 19th – Capital Improvement Planning in Northern Virginia
November 12th – The Budget Process in Newport News
January 13th – New Finance Director Staff Orientation in Abingdon



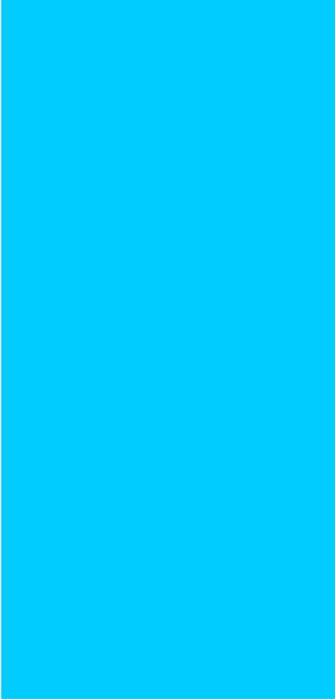
2019 VGFOA Certificate Courses

The VGFOA certification program provides training in many job-related areas and support for those wishing to pursue the national CPFO designation. Information relative to the certification program and each of the courses can be found on our website. The following courses are scheduled over the next few months:

Grants Reporting & Auditing (Fairfax)	7/18 - 7/ 19
Operating and Capital Budgeting (Newport News)	7/18 – 7/19
VA Government and Law	7/25 – 7/26
Issuing Public Debt (Roanoke)	8/1 – 8/2
How to Prepare a CAFR (Newport News)	8/8 – 8/9
Cash Management and Banking (Stafford)	8/15 - 8/16
Retirement and Benefits, Risk Management and Procurement (Fairfax)	8/15 – 8/16
Advanced Governmental Accounting (Henrico)	10/31 – 11/1
Internal Controls, Auditing and Fraud	12/5 – 12/6

A number of courses are now offered on-line through Radford University. Visit the [Calendar of Upcoming Events](#) for the current list of course offerings.

The VGFOA Board is also currently seeking volunteers to assist with teaching the certificate and review courses. If you are interested in teaching, please email kreekes@brunswickco.com



Fall is Coming

As many of us enter the busy audit season it's hard to think of anything other than work. Please consider getting more involved with VGFOA this fall. Sign up for a class; teach a class; take an online class; propose ideas for future conference or newsletter topics; invite a co-worker to a VGFOA event.

Have a great summer, and don't work too hard.

Virginia Government Finance Officers' Association's mission is "...to foster financial excellence in government by creating opportunities for professional development."