
Footnotes

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Letter from the President...

When Bonnie Blair, one of the most decorated US winter Olympians retired, she said, "It's sad to know I'm done, but looking back I've got a lot of great memories." I have the same feelings as I transition to serving as the immediate Past President. As I reflect on the memories of this past year there has been a common thread...you! I am grateful to my coworkers that supported me in my duties and freely volunteered their time and energy. I was fortunate to have all the right people on the bus and they were all in the right seats. I had some amazing mentors provide guidance I needed at the right time. Of course the smiling faces that I saw throughout the year and most recently at our conference. I close my eyes and I can still see your smiles as I recall those great memories.

I would be remiss if I didn't publicly thank our amazing administrator, Kathy Velzen. Even when the whirlwinds of life surrounded her she was able to continue to be an anchor for our association and keep us on the path to success.

I leave you with one last challenge. Be a mentor and share the experiences you've had through CGFOA with your coworkers and associates and encourage them to join our conversations, trainings and events. Let's not be the best kept secret and instead be broadly known as the premier organization for government finance officers in Colorado.

I hope you have a wonderful holiday season and an amazing new year!

Sincerely,

Jeff Edwards, City of Aurora

2017 CGFOA President



Fun Facts about January!

January is named after the Roman god Janus, who was always shown as having two heads. He looked back to the last year and forward to the new one. The Roman New Year festival was called the Calends, and people decorated their homes and gave each other gifts.

Birthstone: Garnet
Flower: Carnation

Capricorn: December 22 - January 19
Aquarius: January 20 - February 18

January in the Northern Hemisphere is the seasonal equivalent to July in the Southern Hemisphere and vice versa.

According to Facebook users, January is "Change Your Profile Picture To A Muppet" Month

January 1st, 1776, the first American flag, the "Grand Union"

The month of January is:

Baking Month
Bath Safety Month
Blood Donor Month
Braille Literacy Month
Codependency Awareness Month
Fat Free Living Month
National Hobby Month
Hot Tea Month
Mentoring Month
Oatmeal Month
Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month
Slow Cooking Month
Soup Month
Stalking Awareness Month
Thank You Month



We Want You!

Have you been thinking about getting more involved in CGFOA? Have ideas for classes and conference sessions? We'd love to have you join the Education Committee at our annual planning session on January 19th in Westminster! During this session, we plan the education curriculum for the year, including drafting the conference agenda and outlining our annual education courses. It's a fun day full of networking and idea sharing, and it's a great way to get your education needs on the calendar. It's also a fun way to get more involved in CGFOA and meet your counterparts from all over the state.

The morning meeting will be followed by our first quarter free networking lunch after which will be the first CGFOA board meeting of the year. Plan to join us for the full day or at least plan to stay for lunch!

Putting together a stellar education calendar for our members and associates takes a strong team. The more ideas and participants we have, the better we do as an organization. Please join us! And feel free to reach out to Catrina or Cheryl with any questions.

Cheryl & Catrina

Education Committee Co-chairs

Did you know...

A CGFOA Board member or the administrator will present your **GFOA Award** to you and your staff at a council meeting. Call the CGFOA office to set it up, 303-922-4647.

We have a **lending library**: <http://www.cgfoa.org/Resources/LibraryBooks.aspx>

CGFOA membership now runs for a full year from the date you join; no need to renew every January anymore, you'll get an email when your membership is about to expire! Remember, membership is individual, not by entity, so each individual must renew. You can choose to pay by check and then send one check for all renewing members from your entity.



Conference Go for Gold: Train to Win was a success! We had over 450 registered attendees including 46 sponsors. All attendees really enjoyed the opening session by Ruben Gonzalez, The Luge Man. Our Olympic themed conference included Opening Ceremonies (Opening Event) and a fun Office Olympics Banquet! Special thanks to Leslie Fischer who coordinated the Olympic theme for our opening and banquet! The banquet speaker was especially well received and almost \$800 in cash was contributed that night to Special Olympics, with even more contributed on-line. Hopefully CGFOA attendees were able to support at least one Special Olympian through our contributions.

As always, the conference provided an opportunity for 3+ days of CPE education. This year's program included SIX tracts - Accounting and Grants, Budget, CTAC, Investments and Banking, Professional Development and Public Engagement. The CPE scanning system worked a bit better this year than last and fewer mistakes needed to be corrected. If you have not reviewed and printed your CPE certificate, be sure to do that so I can fix any remaining issues and send you an updated certificate.

Belle Louise, conference dog extraordinaire, crossed over the rainbow bridge on December 13. She seemed to enjoy her last conference and was glad to see so many of you who stopped by to say hello and give her a belly rub. Belle had been my conference mate for 10 years and my fur-baby soul mate for over 13 years. She loved me unconditionally and I will miss her sweet companionship greatly. Thanks for loving on her at conferences for the last decade!



Joining the board as a **CGFOA Director** is Marlin McDaniel, Budget Analyst, Jefferson County. Marlin has been an active member of CGFOA since 2015. Most recently, Marlin served on the 2017 Education Committee by providing programming for our 2017 Annual Conference. Recognizing that CGFOA is made up of the best and brightest finance officers, Marlin believes that members should have diverse opportunities to grow, learn, and teach others. With those values in mind, Marlin will work to expand CGFOA's membership network, to create platforms that showcase members' innovative and transformative efforts on a local and national level, and to provide best-in-class educational opportunities in a way that is accessible to all. Marlin is excited to create real results and real value for our community.

Residing in Denver with his partner, Desiree, and rescue poodle, William, Marlin enjoys playing tennis, cycling, and an *occasional* hike. This season, he's looking forward to skiing for the first time, so if you have any recommendations, feel free to share.

Letter from the incoming President:

Happy Holidays to all of you!

I hope you had an exciting and rewarding 2017 with a lot of accomplishments and success stories. As your new President in 2018, I will ensure that there will be ample opportunities for networking and training that will help you with achieving your 2018 goals.

I have worked in several governmental organizations throughout my work life and have met numerous professionals both within and outside of government. The long lasting friendships and relationships have allowed me to build my knowledge base and abilities from the experiences that others have shared. I have always believed that the more I have shared my knowledge that as a result the more I have benefitted by receiving knowledge and information from others.

Since I became a member of CGFOA in 2007, I was astonished by the quality of the training that CGFOA has provided to the membership. That training and networking opportunity has been an immeasurable benefit for both new and more established CGFOA members to enhance their careers and add value to their organizations.

In the coming year, I am ready to further promote the members' engagement in CGFOA committees and activities. I am especially interested in receiving your feedback and ideas about what you believe the organization can do to help you achieve your goals. My hope is to also solicit feedback from GFOAs in other states to brainstorm and determine what educational programs might be adopted with CGFOA in the coming year.

It is an honor to serve as your President and I thank you for your support.

Olga Fujaros

Budget and Logistics Manager

Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office

2018 CGFOA President

Hello, CTAC colleagues!



What a fantastic conference we had in Colorado Springs! Many of our members were involved in planning and executing the very first CTAC track and we've received a lot of positive feedback on the sessions that were offered. This served as a great example of what our organization can do when we put our heads together and engage with one another. Combining this spirit of collaboration with exciting changes in leadership, a new format for building engaging workshops and plans for training events throughout the year, 2018 is shaping up to be a great year!

As many of you know, Brandy Zink will serve another year as CTAC Co-chair. We also offer a warm welcome to James MacDonald as Co-chair for 2018. James has been with Westminster since 2005 and is currently their Auditor Supervisor. Thank you, James, for stepping up to offer your time, energy and expertise to such a worthwhile organization! We are both incredibly excited to work with all of CTAC's awesome membership to make 2018 our best year yet!

We will be trying a new approach to receiving input for session ideas and building our workshops for 2018. CTAC members are incredible and we are confident that sessions built based on input, engagement and knowledge from all will lead to effective and valuable information sharing. Watch for emails regarding our quarterly workshops, Auditor 101, Auditor 102, Construction Use Tax and Auditor 103 roundtable discussions in the Metro Area and maybe even along the Western Slope! So, jump right in and offer your ideas and resources anytime to jhmacdon@cityofwestminster.us and bzink@parkeronline.org!

See you in 2018!

James MacDonald and Brandy Zink
CTAC 2018 Co-chairs

Upcoming CGFOA Events/Education

January 19, 2018 - AM - Education Committee Meeting, Westminster, CO
January 19, 2018 - 1st Quarter Free Networking Lunch, Westminster, CO
January 19, 2018 - PM - First Quarter Open CGFOA Board Meeting, Westminster, CO
February 2, 2018 - CTAC Workshop, Arvada, CO
February 28, 2018 - Fiscal Health Webinar

Keep an eye on the Calendar of Events on the CGFOA website for when registration opens for all of these opportunities!



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Footnotes is a publication of the Colorado
 Government Finance Officers Association

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13 totally useless but interesting facts!

1. "Sphenopalatine ganglioneuralgia" is the scientific term for brain freeze.
2. A blue whale's heart is so big that a small child can swim through its veins.
3. The combination of an exclamation point and a question mark is called an "interrobang."
4. When you yawn and stretch at the same time, you are "pandiculating."
5. The dot over a "j" or an "i" is called a "tittle."
6. And the metal part on a pencil is called a "ferrule."
7. Tupac danced ballet in high school and ended up portraying the Mouse King in a production of The Nutcracker.
8. Elephants use the skin folds on their backs to crush mosquitos.
9. "Booby trap" spelled backward is "party boob."
10. -40 Celsius and -40 Fahrenheit are the same temperature.
11. A flamboyance is a group of flamingos.
12. And a group of pugs is called a grumble.
13. Barbie's real name is Barbara Millicent Roberts.

Listserv Update

CGFOA offers four Listservs: Finance Professionals, Tax Audit Professionals, Colorado Flood Resource Professionals, and CGFOA Bike Enthusiasts. If you want to be added to one or more of the listservs, please email your request to Kathy Velzen at administrator@cgfoa.org. Be sure to note which list(s) you want to join.

Finance Directors Listserv

Email your Finance Officers Listserv questions to: finoff@lists.cgfoa.org

CTAC Listserv

Email your CTAC Listserv questions to: taxaud@lists.cgfoa.org

Colorado Flood Resources Listserv

Email your Flood Resources Listserv questions to: coflood@lists.cgfoa.org

CGFOA Bike Enthusiast Listserv

Email your group outing or other information to cgfoarides@lists.cgfoa.org

Keep in mind, joining, leaving or updating an email address is NOT automatic with membership, you must send an email to request being added or making any change or deletion. Also important, make sure you work with your IT department to ensure that emails coming from a lists.cgfoa.org address are marked