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**Illinois
Government
Finance
Officers
Association**

Learning • Connecting • Progressing

Membership Renewals – Mixed News

Over 94% of IGFOA public sector members renewed their commitment to the Association as of March 28, 2008. In addition, new public sector members boosted membership 4.5%. Associate renewals did not fare so well. As of March 28, 2008, only 79% of Associate members had renewed. The Associate Forum and IGFOA staff plan to focus on recruiting new associate members through a word-of-mouth campaign this year. Later this spring we will be circulating the list of current Associate members and asking IGFOA members for contact information for other firms that may be interested in IGFOA membership. Associate Forum volunteers will also be calling non-renewing members to determine why they did not renew. We think the strong and prompt renewals by the local government members bodes well for that sector's stability in this uncertain economy.

Volunteer to Speak

The Associate Forum worked with IGFOA staff to include additional fields in the membership database to allow us to produce up-to-date lists of members interested in speaking at seminars, chapter meetings, and conferences. Log-in to the IGFOA members only web site and update your profile to assure you have filled-in the **Volunteer as an Instructor or Panelist** field. Volunteer coordinators will use this list to identify potential speakers, instructors and panelists. While you are there take a few minutes to add to or update other fields to assure members know how to reach you and what your interests are.

IGFOA Conference Exhibitor Applications – Coming in late April. Mark your calendar for the September 6 -9 Conference in Champaign at the Hilton Garden Inn and start make plans for your best booth yet. The Exhibit Hall theme will be *Tailgating* and IGFOA will host a Kick-off party in the exhibit hall on Sunday September 7th from 5:30 – 7:30 PM. We will be judging booths in several categories and exhibitors are encouraged to help us create a “WOW” factor in the exhibit hall. Exhibits will also be open Monday from 7:30 AM to 4 PM with a break for lunch. IGFOA has purchased a block of tickets to the Saturday, September 6th U of I and Eastern Illinois football game and those will be available through conference registration.

UPCOMING CHAPTER MEETINGS AND REGIONAL PROGRAMS

[South Metro Chapter](#) meets April 4th in Tinley Park. Details at www.igfoa.org.

[Downstate Chapter](#) will host regional workshops and luncheons in April and June. Mark your calendars for the joint Downstate and South Metro conference at Starved Rock July 23-24. Register at www.igfoa.org.

[Large Governments Network](#) come support this new group that will hold its inaugural meeting Friday, May 2nd starting at 11:30 AM at Magianno's, 111 West Grand Avenue, Chicago. Register at www.igfoa.org.

OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT

The Spring present several opportunities to connect with government finance officers and professional staff. Make time to check out at least one of these events to gain a better understanding of the challenges facing local governments:

Powerful Professional Presentations	Thursday, April 17th
Illinois Public Pension Institute: Keynote speaker Girard Miller, Governing Benefits Beat	Friday, April 25th
Basic Debt Management Seminar	Thursday, May 1st
Joint Conference on Strategic Planning, Performance Measurement, Capital Planning and Budgeting: presented by Illinois and Wisconsin GFOA	Thursday, May 15th and Friday, May 16th Janesville, Wisconsin

Next Associates Forum meeting April 14th

If you have any questions about or for the Associates Forum, please contact Associates Representative Lynda Given at 312/845-3814 or given@chapman.com