



December 16, 2008

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!

Direction for the future

Upcoming VGFOA Classes

Online registration is available for the following courses by [Clicking Here](#).

Date	Event	Locations
Jan 8-9	Advanced Governmental Accounting	Fairfax
Feb 5-6	Virginia Government & Law	Roanoke
Feb 5-6	Cash and Investment Management for Local Governments	Newport News
Mar 5-6	Virginia Government and Law	Richmond
Mar 26-27	Grants Reporting and Auditing	Newport News
April 9-10	Internal Controls	Roanoke
April 23-24	Pensions, Risk Management & Procurement	Chesapeake

If you have any questions or comments about these classes please contact Vivian McGettigan at vamcgettigan@co.hanover.va.us.

Upcoming Regional Events

The Virginia Government Finance Officers Association has been working to develop regional programs for our members. This effort is designed to bring educational and networking opportunities to our members through four regional groups (Northern Virginia (NOVA), Central Virginia, Hampton Roads and Southwest Virginia).

The Hampton Roads Regional Group's next event:

When:	January 15, 2009, 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.
Where:	Holiday Inn Select, 1570 N Military Hwy, Norfolk
What:	Internal Controls, Part I (Importance of the internal control framework in the municipal setting including an overview of the risk assessment suite of auditing standards)
Who:	John Montoro, CPA of Cherry, Bekaert & Holland
Cost:	\$10 for VGFOA members and \$13 for non-members

Register for this event by [clicking here](#).

The Northern Virginia Regional Group's (NOVA) next event:

Renew Membership
Dues overdue? Renew your membership today.

VGFOA Announcements & News
See the latest updates and news

National GFOA on the Web
Visit now

When:	January 22, 2009, 12:30 to 3:15 p.m.
Where:	Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax
What:	AGA's recently released "Characteristics of Effective Audit Committees in Federal, State and Local Governments"
Who:	Jack Reagan, CPA of KPMG
Cost:	Free with lunch provided

Register for this event by [clicking here](#).

Contact for each regional organization is:

Northern	Tanya Burrell at Tanya.Burrell@fairfaxcounty.gov
Central	Charles Ramsay at ram08@co.henrico.va.us
Southeast	Donna Hildebrand at dhildebrand@cityofchesapeake.net
Southwest	Rebecca Owens at rowens@roanokecountyva.gov Ann Shawver at ann.shawver@roanokeva.gov

VGFOA Offers Listserv Service

Sixty-six of our members have registered for the VGFOA Listserv. The listserv's purpose is to enhance the exchange of information among VGFOA members by providing a forum for discussion and the exchange of ideas, experiences, and other helpful information about Virginia's governmental finance professionals.

Recent questions posed on the listserv have ranged from handling local fundraisers, the red-flag rules, local policies on reductions-in-force, local policies on vehicle replacements, and concerns about particular revenue shortfalls.

Subscribe to the VGFOA listserv by [Clicking Here](#).

If you have any questions or comments about the listserv, please contact Nickie Champion at nchampion@gloucesterva.info.

IRS Announces 2009 Standard Mileage Rates

The Internal Revenue Service has issued the 2009 optional standard mileage rates used to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business, charitable, medical or moving purposes.

Beginning on Jan. 1, 2009, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car (also vans, pickups or panel trucks) will be:

- 55 cents per mile for business miles driven
- 24 cents per mile driven for medical or moving purposes
- 14 cents per mile driven in service of charitable organizations

The new rates for business, medical and moving purposes are slightly lower

than rates for the second half of 2008 that were raised by a special adjustment mid-year in response to a spike in gasoline prices. The rate for charitable purposes is set by law and is unchanged from 2008.

The business mileage rate was 50.5 cents in the first half of 2008 and 58.5 cents in the second half. The medical and moving rate was 19 cents in the first half and 27 cents in the second half.

The mileage rates for 2009 reflect generally higher transportation costs compared to a year ago, but the rates also factor in the recent reversal of rising gasoline prices. While gasoline is a significant factor in the mileage rate, other fixed and variable costs, such as depreciation, enter the calculation.

The standard mileage rate for business is based on an annual study of the fixed and variable costs of operating an automobile. The rate for medical and moving purposes is based on the variable costs as determined by the same study. Independent contractor Runzheimer International conducted the study.

A taxpayer may not use the business standard mileage rate for a vehicle after using any depreciation method under the Modified Accelerated Cost Recovery System (MACRS) or after claiming a Section 179 deduction for that vehicle. In addition, the business standard mileage rate cannot be used for any vehicle used for hire or for more than four vehicles used simultaneously.

Taxpayers always have the option of calculating the actual costs of using their vehicle rather than using the standard mileage rates.

[Revenue Procedure 2008-72](#) contains additional information on these standard mileage rates.

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.