

## President's Report

### Membership Matters

In February, Nancy Francisco-Welke, spoke to the chapter about donor stewardship. Part of her talk focused on saying thank you. She implored us to be genuine, specific, and timely in our donor thank yous. As AFP chapter programs often do, it reminded me of something I knew but perhaps had lost sight of in the business of day-today activities. Saying thank you really matters - and today I want to thank you!

As a member, you are the backbone of our AFP chapter. Your membership really does matter! For each paid membership, our AFP chapter receives funds from AFP International that we use toward scholarships, chapter administration, and monthly programs. It helps us to keep program costs reasonable, and we hope you feel that your membership is a value.

Many members appreciate the networking aspects of AFP. We share job prospects, suggest consultants, find mentors, and learn from colleagues. The stronger our membership is, the better the networking opportunities.

Committees rely on members to be high functioning, and our chapter relies on committees to get things done. It is a great way to support the chapter, increase your connections, and broaden your skill set. Our chapter cannot do all that it does without the tremendous volunteer time of the membership. For those who serve on committees, we are grateful for your work.

So for all of your great contributions to the Greater Madison AFP - THANK YOU!

*Jennifer Collins*  
AFP Greater Madison Chapter President

## Save the Date! - April Chapter Meeting

**Tuesday, April 17, 12-1:30pm** - Nakoma Country Club  
Program: **Trends in Fundraising & Charitable Giving**  
Panelists: Leslie Howard, United Way; Kathleen Voit, Madison Community Foundation; Theresa Duren, Donors Forum  
Moderator: Bill Johnston, Wisconsin State Journal  
Sponsor: SVA Certified Public Accountants, S.C.  
Committee Spotlight: Professional Development



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## Further Opportunities for Learning and Connections

The Professional Development Committee provides educational opportunities for AFP members to enhance their knowledge and skills in fund development. Current activities include quarterly networking breakfasts, the CFRE study course, and special programs. Mark your calendar for the following upcoming events brought to you by the Professional Development Committee and register for them on the AFP website :

**Wednesday, March 28, 2012 || 8 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.**

### **It's a GREAT Time to Fundraise**

Nationally recognized fundraiser John Hicks, President and CEO of J.C. Geever Inc., will provide a motivational morning for nonprofit executives, fundraising professionals, volunteers, and board members. Hear about philanthropic trends and strategies that will boost your optimism and jump start your development program.

**Thursday, April 12, 2012 || 8-9 a.m.**

### **2nd Quarter Networking Breakfast**

Topic: Organizational Growing Pains and Fund Development

Submit discussion topics to

[aoverby@madisoncommunityfoundation.org](mailto:aoverby@madisoncommunityfoundation.org)

by Friday, April 6.

Other events of interest:

**Thursday, May 3, 2012 || 8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**

### **Retirement Accounts: Planning Optimal Outcomes for Family, Charitable and Tax Objectives**

\$30 at the Alliant Energy Center, Madison

Christopher Hoyt, Professor of Law at University of Missouri - Kansas City School of Law and currently the Chair of the American Bar Association's Committee on Legislation and Regulations, is an engaging and entertaining speaker. This event may qualify for CFP, CPA, insurance, and law continuing education credits. Information will be available the day of the event. To register, go to [www.madisoncommunityfoundation.org](http://www.madisoncommunityfoundation.org), Community Education Series 2012.

Sponsors: Baker Tilly, Johnson Bank Wealth Management, Madison Community Foundation, Madison Estate Council, Wisconsin Planned Giving Council

**June 6, 2012 || 8 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.**

Madison Community Foundation's Celebration of Philanthropy

\$15 at the Monona Terrace Community & Convention Center, Madison Our annual event celebrating philanthropy in Dane County and beyond will be in a brand new breakfast format this year. Our featured speaker, Amy Eshleman, formerly Chicago Public Library Director of Development and Outreach, was instrumental in crafting heavily attended programs for Chicago's teens. She is currently leading the creation, implementation and expansion of YOUmedia, a national model for interest-driven, participatory learning for teens. An energizing and articulate speaker, Amy will share her insight into the dynamic and connected world of today's libraries.

*Sponsors: CUNA Mutual Foundation, Madison Community Foundation*



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## Las Vegas in October *by Judy Keel*

Who would have thought that Las Vegas in October would be rainy and cold, while back in Wisconsin, it was sunny and warm. It didn't really matter though since I was there to attend my first Grant Professionals Association (GPA) Annual Conference, thanks in part to a scholarship from our Greater Madison Chapter of AFP. As this was my first GPA conference, I wasn't sure what to expect, but I was pleasantly surprised. Although I have been researching and writing grants for 15 years, there is always something new to be learned or some new tips to pick up.

Workshops that I attended included: how to use census data in grant writing, models for sustaining programs after grant funding has ended, program evaluation, writing with passion and power, communicating the power of investing in your organization, how to find green grants, and writing successful federal applications. There was also a special interest group gathering for those of us who work in healthcare that provided a great opportunity for networking and information sharing. Keynote speakers shared inspiring and thought provoking information.

While there is not a local GPA chapter or even a chapter in Wisconsin, the annual conference connected me with other grant professionals, helped me to understand the federal grant process better, and allowed me to bring back information and ideas to enhance my grant writing work at Access Community Health Centers.

The GPA conference experience made me even more energized and excited about the work that I do every day and helped me to further develop and enhance my grant skills. Thanks to the greater Madison AFP Chapter for the opportunity to attend. Oh, and I did find time to do a little gambling!

*Watch future issues of AFP Madison E-News and listen at meetings for future scholarship opportunities!*

## Member News and Kudos

- Cheri Dubiel Buckner will become the Grants Manager at YMCA of Dane County
- Lannia Syren Stenz is now the Executive Director with Gilda's Club Madison.
- Paul Kamps is the Community Investment Director with Operation Fresh Start.
- Kristi Shepard has been promoted to Senior Director of Major and Planned Giving at United Way of Dane County.
- We congratulate AFP President, Jenni Collins, nominated for the Business Forum's 2012 Athena Award and extend our congratulations to this year's award recipient, Ruth Ann Schoer, Director of Major Gifts, the Salvation Army.

Email us your news and updates to be included in the next edition of E-News!



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