



# GAFM News

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### A Message From The Chair

This news letter is dedicated to a few special people and points of interest. It is time for us floodplainers to sound the trum-

pets, toot the horn and beat the drums. Please take time out and quickly compose a paragraph recommending a project or someone for an award or sign up to present at our conference. The deadlines are coming up **See Chair Page 3**



### Call for Nominations: Outstanding Achievement Awards

#### Deadline: February 11, 2011

As part of Georgia Association of Floodplain Management (GAFM) Annual Conference to be held at beautiful Legacy Lodge at Lake Lanier

Islands Resort, March 21-24, 2010, the GAFM is seeking nominations of outstanding individuals or programs to be recognized as such during the Annual Conference. There are several awards that have been authorized by the GAFM Board. A description of the award and the criteria for nomination are described in the following sections. Note that these are not annual awards; there is no requirement **See GAFM Page 2**

### 2011 CRS Award for Excellence Nominations



#### Deadline: February 11, 2011

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) has decided to establish an award to recognize individuals who have actively advanced the vision

of the NFIP and the Community Rating System (CRS). The CRS is a program within the NFIP that provides guidelines for participating communities that want to continually improve their community's safety and resilience with respect to flooding and other natural disasters. While all CRS communities are taking steps that improve their flood safety and resilience, certain communities stand out. **See CRS Page 4**



GAFM would like to wish a very Happy Birthday to:

#### Birthdays in Jan—Mar

Name	Date
George Eastman	1/17
Chris Budd	2/14
Connie Smith	2/24
Garrett Skinner	2/25
Ranko Pudar	3/15
Anthony Prevost	3/19

Your birthday could be here—send your birthday information to:



### GAFM: Call for Conference Abstracts

#### Deadline: Feb. 18, 2011

Anyone wishing to make a presentation, as a single presenter or as a group at GAFM's sixth annual conference March 21-24, 2011 at the Legacy

Lodge & Conference Center Lake Lanier Islands (Buford), Georgia must submit an e-mail to Danelle Volpe, Conference Planning Committee (GAFM.Abstacts@gafloods.org) as soon as possible to secure a session spot and/or a specific time. This year's GAFM's conference title is "Blame it on the Rain". Suggested topics areas include, **See GAFM Abstracts Page 4**

### Request for Board Nominations



#### Deadline: February 22, 2011

GAFM is now accepting nominations for Executive board members and Regional and At Large members for the 2011-2012 board terms.

#### Time Line:

##### Nomination Period:

We will be taking Nominations for two weeks: (February 8<sup>th</sup> till February 22 @ midnight)

##### Campaign Period:

Nomination will have a period of two weeks to campaign for the respective position: (Feb. 23 to March 9) **See BOARD Page 4**

# GAFM AWARDS

Lake Lanier Resort, Buford, GA.

March 21 – 24, 2011



## **GAFM.**

that at each year an award is given in the described categories, nor is there a requirement that only one award be given at any one time for a specific category. Any award will be based on merit as judged by the GAFM Nominations Review Committee in accordance with the criteria described.

In order to nominate an individual or program, please submit to the Nominations Review Committee Chair no more than two pages, as appropriate, describing the individual or program being nominated. Include a description of the reasons the individual or program merits recognition in general accordance with criteria described for each award. Also include any supporting statements of recommendation or supporting documentation. Supporting materials are not restricted by the two page limit. There is no award nominations form or template; however, supporting documentation needs to demonstrate compliance with the criteria described in the specific award category. Individual and program nominees must be in general compliance with all applicable floodplain management requirements and otherwise have a satisfactory record with respect to floodplain management. All nominations must have a primary sponsor who is a current member of GAFM.

Nominations should be e-mailed in WORD or PDF format no later than February 11, 2011 to:

charles.absher@jacobs.com

Charles D. Absher, P.E., CFM

Chair – Awards Nominations Review Committee

Any questions should also be e-mailed to Charles. Questions do not have to be in a WORD or PDF format.

Awards will be announced at the Annual Conference; some awards will be presented in a local setting (such as a Commission Meeting) subsequent to the Conference so that the individual or program can be recognized in the local community outside of GAFM for their outstanding efforts.

### Nomination Review Process

Each award nomination will be evaluated by a sub-committee of three current GAFM members. There will be a separate sub-committee for each nomination. The sub-committee will review their assigned nomination individually, without input or influence from other sub-committee members or the Nominations Review Committee Chair. Sub-committee members are expected to research independently beyond simply reviewing the nominating documents in order to assure themselves of the relative merits of bestowing or denying the award. A yes or no recommendation will be sent by each sub-committee member

confidentially to the Review Committee Chair who will tabulate the recommendations. Awards will be bestowed or denied based on a strict accounting of the yes and no votes from each sub-committee. If you are interested in serving on a review sub-committee, please contact Charles Absher.

### Program Award for Excellence in Floodplain Management

This award recognizes county or municipal programs, or multiple-jurisdictional programs, demonstrating outstanding local commitment to sound floodplain management. The award is open to any municipal or county sponsored program in the State of Georgia. The program can be multi-jurisdictional in nature, for example a multi-county effort, or a combined municipal/county program, or an RDC sponsored program. Although State of Georgia and FEMA programs are not eligible for this award, local programs that are funded fully or in part by the State and/or FEMA, and are generally administered and implemented on the local level, are eligible. The award will be announced at the Conference but will be presented in the appropriate local setting.

Nominees should be able to generally demonstrate:

- \* Improvement to one or more floodplain management outcomes compatible with recognized goals established by GAFM, ASFP, or FEMA;
- \* Contributions to knowledge, methods, technology or regulations; and
- \* Achievement of floodplain management objectives over a sufficient period of time, where appropriate.

Where possible, and as appropriate, information accompanying the nomination should include:

- \* Brief description of the nominated program;
- \* Key performance data relevant to the outcomes;
- \* Benefits in terms of health, safety, convenience, aesthetics and quality of urban living; and
- \* Independent supporting descriptions and information.

### Outstanding Floodplain Manager Award

This award recognizes the individual efforts of an outstanding floodplain manager in the State of Georgia. The individual must have worked, or is currently working in a floodplain management capacity within a municipality or county within the State of Georgia. It is not necessary for them to be a member of GAFM; however, an awardee will also be given a complimentary general one-year membership in GAFM. The award will be announced at the Conference but will be presented in the appropriate local setting.

Nominees should generally have demonstrated outstanding

leadership in local floodplain management issues. It is preferred that at least two statements of recommendation, not including the primary nominating statement, be included from local officials or citizens within the community they serve.

The contributions of the nominee should be described in as much detail as appropriate, with specific examples and instances relating to floodplain management included in the nominating document.

Self-nominations will not be considered. This award should be considered as peer-recognition for outstanding local leadership and achievement.

#### Distinguished Service Award

This award recognizes a current or past member of GAFM who has been an outstanding influence on the credibility, responsiveness, and overall quality of the organization. The nominee should characterize the finest in selfless dedication to promoting and expanding recognition of GAFM as an organization of the highest quality. The nominee should be personally recognizable by a large portion of the GAFM membership as having a critical influence on the success of GAFM. It should be clear in the nominating document that this person's efforts have helped to result in GAFM being recognized as a high quality organization. It is preferred that at least three statements of recommendation, not including the primary nominating statement, also be included. This award will be announced and presented at the Annual Conference.

#### Meritorious Achievement Award

This award will recognize an individual for achievement above and beyond the "call of duty". It is not necessary for them to be a member of GAFM; however, an awardee will also be given a complimentary general one-year membership in GAFM. The event, achievement, or motivation for this award is highly variable; it does not have to have occurred in Georgia and does not have to be directly related to floodplain management, although at least indirectly it should positively influence the goal of sound floodplain management. For example, outstanding volunteer disaster relief outside of Georgia could provide for consideration of a nominee. Meritorious achievement can be recognized in the area of education, government, policy, research, litigation, outreach, implementation, or other areas that can have a direct or indirect influence on the goal of sound floodplain management. The nominating document should describe the meritorious nature of the individual's work or achievement, and should clearly indicate how this individual has performed beyond what would be considered their normal or average activities and abilities. It is preferred that at least two statements of recommendation, not including the primary nominating statement, be included from persons intimately familiar with the event or activities precipitating the nomination. The award will be announced at the Conference, and can be presented at the Conference, but can also be presented in the appropriate local setting.

## Conference Calendar of Events

GAFM's 6th Annual Conference -  
"BLAME IT ON THE RAIN"

When: March 22- 24, 2011

Hosted By : Central Region

Location: Legacy @ Lake Lanier Islands Resort

Limited financial assistance to cover registration costs will be available. e-mail your regional rep through GAFM's Web Page.



ASFPM 35th Annual National Conference

"Flood Risk Management:

The Winning Ticket"

[www.floods.org](http://www.floods.org)



### Chair..

quickly so please review the newsletter and support each article.

I wanted to thank a couple people that will be leaving us and moving on to other adventures outside our state of Georgia. Metro Atlanta Representative, Johnny Barron, CFM is moving to Oklahoma and East Representative Garrett Weiss, CFM is moving to California. Both Reps have been active in GAFM and promoting the consequence of poor development in the floodplain. Johnny and Garrett are very knowledgeable in improper development, so they will always be an asset for protecting floodplains wherever they go.

Garrett Skinner and the Conference Committee have been working on scheduling the 6th annual conference. Terry Turner is boasting of new No Adverse Impact (NAI) topics while the committee has assembled local, State and National speakers to present. Fields trips have been added as well, and social diva, Veronica Briers, has some unexpected surprises, weather permitting, during our night social activity. As is in past years there will be three concurrent tracts in a wide variety of flood-

plain information.

Call for volunteers. Over the next few weeks GAFM's At-Large Representative and Education in Schools Coordinator, Bill Finnick, CFM [bill@spectrummodular.com](mailto:bill@spectrummodular.com) and ASFPM Secretary Allen Giles, CFM [allan.giles@dnr.state.ga.us](mailto:allan.giles@dnr.state.ga.us), will be seeking help to present the Floodplain model in Atlanta's school system. GAFM, ASFPM, and OPP have entered into a contract to take the WARD Floodplain model into the inner City schools to explain why flooding occurs. The information is designed to ease the anxiety of flooding by explaining why flooding occurs and ways to reduce the flooding to fourth grade science classes. Please support them as they bring this important floodplain information into the school system.

Hope to see you at the conference and hear your name called out as an award winner this year

Tom McDonald, CFM

GAFM Chair

Never stop lifting each other up.

## GAFM Abstracts

but are not limited to No Adverse Impact (NAI), Mitigation success stories, Community Rating System, Insurance adjuster issues, Public Involvement, Hazard mitigation planning, NFIP & floodplain management issues, Multi-hazard mitigation projects, FEMA mitigation grant programs, Stormwater programs & funding, Building codes issues, Floodplain mapping technology & applications, Coastal issues, and Flood preparedness.

Once a date and time are secured, then submit an abstract (one page or less) describing the material to be presented along with a brief biography (one page or less) and contact information (address, phone number and e-mail address) to Conference Planning Committee (GAFM.Abstacts@gafloods.org).

Direct questions and email abstracts to: Danelle Volpe, (GAFM.Abstacts@gafloods.org).

## CRS...

As in all serious endeavors, outstanding results do not just happen. They are due to the efforts of specific individuals, who through their knowledge, commitment and passion, have made their communities safer. The NFIP hopes to annually recognize such individuals through the presentation of the "CRS Award for Excellence" during the annual National Flood Conferences (NFC). The presentation of the 2011 award is planned for the NFC scheduled for May 1-4, 2011. We are asking your organization and its members to help us identify worthy individuals. In particular we are looking for nominees who have provided leadership in the area of alerting residents to the dangers of flooding and promoting the purchase of flood insurance through the NFIP. Such an individual could be an insurance or real estate professional, local official, floodplain manager, or other community leader.

### **The nominee should be:**

- Actively involved in a CRS community and knowledgeable

about the potential risk of local flooding.

- Active in promoting the use of flood insurance as a key tool in helping individuals prepare for the contingency of flood damage to their properties.
- Active in encouraging community leaders to continually improve the community's safety and resilience related to flooding and other disasters.
- Recognizable as having noteworthy achievements in the area of alerting residents and businesses to potential flood dangers and promoting the purchase of flood insurance.

If you or your members know of any such individuals, please help us recognize their achievements. Fill out the Nomination Form and mail or fax it as directed thereon. Please return the form no later than February 11, 2011.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. The NFIP appreciates your assistance in helping us to recognize leaders whose efforts have made communities more alert and resistant to the dangers of natural disasters.

## Board

### **Voting Period**

All members will have one week to vote for each Executive Board and At-Large position plus the Region Representative that reside in their region.

**Qualifications:** Prospective board members must meet the following qualifications to be eligible to be elected for the upcoming board term:- Be a current GAFM member in good standing., works or reside in the State of GA., and attend required meetings

### **How to be nominated:**

If you would like to nominate yourself or someone for the upcoming board term, please contact Verna Yin, CFM, by email [GAFM.Secretary@gafloods.org](mailto:GAFM.Secretary@gafloods.org) or Office (404) 675-1619

### **Board positions to vote on**

<u>Executive Board:</u>	<u>Resigned and Odd Year Regional Reps.</u>	<u>At-Large Representatives</u>
Chair	Region 1 – North	All Three positions are to be voted on.
Vice Chair	Region 3 – Central	<b>Note:</b> No more than one At-Large
Treasurer	Region 5 – Metro Atlanta	position should be elected from
Secretary	Region 4 – Coastal	a Region
	Region 6 – East	

**Term** – Executive Board member and At-Large position serves for one (1) year but may not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms – two (2) years, provided there are other members capable of filling the position. A Regional Representative serves for two (2) years but may not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms – four (4) years, provided there are other members capable of filling the position.

**Special Note:** Each position up for vote, excluding Regional Representatives for Region 1 – North and Region 3 – Central, is able to remain in office as incumbent.