

# Fiscal Flyer

CFMA-Issue 2

October 2004

## MAKING YOUR LUNCH RESERVATIONS

Your **lunch reservations** should be made using the Internet. Visit the CFMA luncheons web page (see link below) and click on the "Place Setting." You can register each month or sign up for all the lunches in one visit. Please register by 12 PM on the Wednesday before the lunch. If you need to cancel after you register, please email Dottie Relaford before noon on the Wednesday before the lunch. [dottie.relaford@state.co.us](mailto:dottie.relaford@state.co.us).  
<http://www.state.co.us/cfma/Luncheons/lunch.htm>



October Luncheon

Place: Beef Palace – Serving Chicken and Steak Fajitas

Time: October 7, 2004 11:45am -1:30pm

Speakers: Ruth Aponte-Willihnganz & Edie Busam,  
Lobbyists - Aponte, Hogan and Assoc.



## President's Corner By *Roger A. Cusworth*

Fall in Colorado! Is there a better season? While the golfers, tennis players, and swimmers mourn the passing of summer and begin their winter hibernation, the football fans are reveling in seeing the pigskin flying through the air, or rolling on the ground in the case of the Bronco's backfield, and skiers and snowboarders are anxiously awaiting the first snowflake. The State's books are closed, the Legislature is still several months away, the aspens are turning colors and most accountants in the state have a chance to get out and breath the fresh mountain air. Yes, that means you have to get out of downtown.

Fall also means elections. We are very fortunate to have the opportunity to elect the people that run our government. As we know, that freedom does not exist everywhere in the world and we have paid the price to maintain it. If you have not registered, I encourage you to do so. More importantly, please take the opportunity next month to express your opinion at the ballot box. If nothing else, voting in November gives you the right to voice your opinion for the next two to four years if you do not like the people who were elected or the things that were passed.

If that is not enough, fall also means the annual **Fall Conference**. The date is **October 26<sup>th</sup>**, the location is the Arvada Center, the speakers are set, and the food will be great. We currently only have around 100 people signed up, but there is still time. If you have not yet signed up, stop what you are doing, go to the CFMA website and register. This is a must attend function if you are a CPA, as ethics training is available. Many thanks to Mindy Densmore for putting bring all this together. Visit the web site to get more details.

The membership drive is in full swing. With all the retirements we have seen over the past few years, each of us need to reach out to the new accountants in the state, I heard there are a few, and get them to join CFMA. It is the strength of our membership that makes CFMA the great organization that it is. The application form is available on the web. As a member, the Fall Conference is free, except for the ethics, CFMA will track your CPE that we offer, and you get this great newsletter each month. All that for only \$15 if you join by **October 15, 2004**.

The Board is here to serve you, please contact any of us with your questions or concerns.



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# The Bean Counter's Underground Press

By Alan Boisvert

I picked up the Denver Post on Monday, September 20<sup>th</sup> to check out the Dilbert cartoon and see what my horoscope said for the day. To my surprise the Post's front page was divided equally between two really big stories that affect all of us, the Broncos loss at Jacksonville, and the State's inability to solve its looming fiscal crisis. Looming Fiscal Crisis (LFC) was the Post's words and not mine. It seems that the Broncos could muster no offense, given that they held Jacksonville to only 7 points and still lost the game. Hard to believe that these were the Broncos that averaged 30 plus points a game only a few years back to lead the NFL in offense.

The State wasn't much better either. It seems that a State that led the nation in job growth and skier visits should be able to get a referendum together for the November ballot to fix the LFC before it became just an FC. The article seemed to say that the General Assembly would like it fixed but they would prefer some citizen's initiative to do the heavy lifting for them. Kind of like the Bronco offense waiting for the defense to score some points and win the game. However, the offense, not the defense, is paid to score points.

The issue I had with the Post's presentation was, I couldn't decide which one I was going read first. I thought the Broncos should be on the front page and the LFC article should be back near the weather in the B section. Basically, the Broncos losing so disgracefully was new news, and the State not fixing its LFC was old news just rehashed. But being the open-minded person that I am, I decided to conduct a scientific survey to see if my position was correct.

I asked a representative sample of people in different situations "If you could only choose one, would you prefer, that the Broncos win the Super Bowl or that the State solve its Looming Fiscal Crisis (known as the LFC among those in the know)." My responses were:

Among males (non-state employees) 18-54 with incomes above \$7.12 an hour it was 84.3% Super Bowl, 15.7% Undecided.

Among females 18-54 with school age children it was 23.4% Super Bowl, 54.2% LFC, and 22.4% Undecided.

Among state employees of both genders it was 12.4% Super Bowl, 8.9% LFC, and 78.7% Undecided.

After convincing the state employees that this was a secret survey and their names would not be revealed it was 12.4% Super Bowl, 87.1% LFC, and 0.5% Undecided.

Among employees of the State Controller's Office (SCO) it was 3.5% Super Bowl, 96.5% LFC.

For employees of the SCO by gender it was:

Males	7.0% Super Bowl	93.0% LFC
Females	0.0% Super Bowl	100.0% LFC

For employees of the SCO who work:

Full-time	0.0% Super Bowl	100.0% LFC
Part-time	100.0% Super Bowl	0.0% LFC

The only conclusion that I can draw from this survey is that the Broncos winning a Super Bowl would go a long way in lifting the spirits of a bunch of guys between 18-54 who make more than \$7.12 an hour and some part-time male employee at the SCO. I do like the idea of surveys though because they show what really concerns people. Next month's survey will answer the question, "Which do you think will happen first, a peaceful and democratic Middle East, finding Osama, or the State solving its Looming Fiscal Crisis."



"The opinions expressed here are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Colorado Fiscal Managers Association, its Board, or its members."

2003 - 2004

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E-MAIL ADDRESS FOR THE OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS CAN BE FOUND ON THE CFMA WEBSITE:

[HTTP://WWW.STATE.CO.US/CFMA/HOME.HTM](http://www.state.co.us/cfma/home.htm)



*“Attend three CFMA luncheons this year and get the 4<sup>th</sup> lunch free!” – CFMA Board*

*CFMA’s very popular buy three get one free lunch program is in place for the upcoming year. If you attend all eight lunches this year, CFMA will pay for two of them. To assist in the record Keeping process, please register each month using the Web site registration and be sure to use the same name. For example, Roger Cusworth and Roger A Cusworth are treated as two people in the database used to track free lunches. You also need to be sure you check in each time you attend a luncheon.*

*In case you are wondering, your attendance from last year does not carry over to this year.*

## 2004 CFMA Fall Educational Conference

**October 26, 2004**

**Arvada Center for the Performing Arts**



The Fall Educational Seminar is on **Tuesday, October 26** at the **Arvada Center**. Registration begins at 7:15 and the sessions run from 8:00 until 4:30.

Our speakers include David Bean from GASB, a speaker from the SAS Institute on Activity Based Management, and a session from CSEAP titled “Keeping Your Balance in the Changing Workplace”. There is also an optional Ethics session that meets the CPA requirement.

The basic seminar is **ABSOLUTELY FREE** to CFMA members. The Ethics session costs \$35. For more information, and to register visit the CFMA Web page under Seminars.

Deadline for registration is **October 18<sup>th</sup>!!!**.

Questions? Please contact conference committee chair **Mindy Densmore** at [mdensmore@spike.dor.state.co.us](mailto:mdensmore@spike.dor.state.co.us)



If indeed you must be candid, be candid beautifully.  
~ Kahlil Gibran  
(1883 - 1931)