



THE ASSESSMENT FILES

County Assessors Association of Oklahoma

VOLUME 1

DECEMBER 2003

News From The President

Seasons Greeting Board Members & Officers,

I hope everyone is having a joyous holiday season. If you're like me you are so busy it's hard to slow down and enjoy the season.

This is notification of an Executive Committee and Board of Directors meeting to be held on January 13th at 1:30 in the board room at the ACCO building on 50th and Lincoln in Oklahoma City.

Because of the resignation of Mike Means, we must appoint a representative to fill his Vice President position on the CODA Board.

Please put this date on your calendar and let me know if you will be able to attend. I hope everyone has a Wonderful Christmas with your families and a very Happy New Year.

Merry Christmas!
Debbie Collins,
President County Assessors Association of Oklahoma



IN OUR PRAYERS

Eloise McCully, Kingfisher County Assessor, lost her husband over Thanksgiving. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Eloise.

If you have any prayer request please submit them to us by January 15th.



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

<i>Ruth Dameal</i>	<i>Leflore</i>	<i>Jan 1</i>
<i>Kathi Mask</i>	<i>Hughes</i>	<i>Jan 4</i>
<i>Sandra Proctor</i>	<i>Mayer</i>	<i>Jan 4</i>
<i>Bill Schultz</i>	<i>Grant</i>	<i>Jan 5</i>
<i>Regina Mengers</i>	<i>Okmulgee</i>	<i>Jan 7</i>
<i>Pat Daniel</i>	<i>Hamon</i>	<i>Jan 13</i>
<i>Cherry Hefley</i>	<i>Coal</i>	<i>Jan 14</i>
<i>Mike Means</i>	<i>Oklahoma</i>	<i>Jan 16</i>
<i>Denise Heavner</i>	<i>Cleveland</i>	<i>Jan 20</i>
<i>Lennett Pisacka</i>	<i>Dewey</i>	<i>Jan.22</i>
<i>Shelly Sehrt</i>	<i>Cotton</i>	<i>Jan 28</i>

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County Assessors
Association of Oklahoma

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Denise Heavner, Vice-President
Ralph Wilson, Treasurer
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Committee Membership List

2003-2004

The following is a list of Oklahoma County Assessors who will serve the County Assessors Association of Oklahoma in their respective committees. Committee members are appointed following the Assessors Association Annual Fall Conference. Association by-laws limit committees to five members. Exceptions include special interim committees. The Association welcomes input from its membership and encourages active participation. All committee meetings are open to Association members. Please contact the committee chairperson for information regarding meeting dates and times.

Accreditation

Donna Giddens, Chairperson
Robert McAdoo
Mike Means
Jackie Gooch
Letitia Stockton

Ag/School Land

Robert McAdoo, Chairperson
Janie Batt Bellah
Cheri Hall
Scotty Crosby
Lennet Pisacka

Audit

Evelyn Bradley, Chairperson
Cathy Carlisle
Gail Hedgcoth
Cathy Hokit
Teresa Tallon

Fees

Jim Kelley, Chairperson
Jackie Gooch
Cheri Hall
Denise Heavner
Robert McAdoo

Forms

Monica Schmidt, Chairperson
Cheri Hall
Jackie Gooch
Mike Reynolds
Teresa Tallon

Handbook*

Monica Schmidt, Chairperson
Cheri Hall
Cynthia Holtwick
Wade Patterson
Saundra Proctor
Monica Schmidt
Wayne Spears

Legislative

Jim Kelley, Chairperson
Debbie Gentry
Gail Hedgcoth
Mike Means
Wade Patterson

Memoriam

Mary Moore, Chairperson
Cherry Hefley

Nomination

Cathy Hokit, Chairperson
Kathi Mask-*Southeast*
Sharon Butler-*At-Large*
Wade Patterson-*Northwest*
Loretta Hall-*Southwest*
Rhonda Pritchard-*Northeast*

4-C

Debbie Gentry, Chairperson
Kathi Mask
Sharon Butler
Jim Kelley
Wayne Spears

Rules

Randy Wintz, Chairperson
Linda Kelley
Todd Mathes
Monica Schmidt
Teresa Tallon

Public Service/ Petroleum/ Pipeline

Karen Perkins, Chairperson
Gail Hedgcoth
Jim Kelley
Glenda Kirk
Rosemary Neely

Resolution

Donna Giddens, Chairperson
Evelyn Bradley
Cathy Hokit
Sharon Lane
Letitia Stockton

Board Members

Kathi Mask-*SE District*
Wade Patterson-*NW Dist*
Loretta Hall-*SW District*
Rhonda Pritchett-*NE Dist*
Rosemary Neely-1yr.
Cynthia Holtwick-1yr.
Debbie Croasdale-2yr.
Pat Daniel-2yr

**Interim Committee*

Ad Valorem Update

Merry Christmas to Everyone from the Ad Valorem Division.

2003 is about over, and it is time to let the air out of this year. Things are winding down and we're looking forward to next year, but we know that in the counties this is sometimes a pretty wild time of year with the last minute tax payments and questions coming in. I remember one year staying until six p.m. on Christmas eve on a mobile home crisis, and to this day, I have no idea what all the debate was about. (Don't forget homestead season is just around the corner.)

Year 2003 has been a challenging one. During the last session of the Legislature, we had lots of proposals about changing the system, but not much real change. The proposal on the senior freeze prepared by county government should generate a lot of discussion on ad valorem. The five-year program and the additional homestead exemption issues will extremely important again next year.

We appreciate the counties on the state system for hanging in with us on the new Windows update. It has had some rough edges, but I'm proud of the work our staff has done to get everyone into the new system. Thanks Glen Blood.

The Southwestern Bell settlement was also an important issue that occupied a lot of time and resources during the year.

For the Ad Valorem Division we have spent lots of time dealing with the budget situation. I have really appreciated our staff stepping up to take on extra jobs, and as always, we've been helped by SA&I, the Assessors' Association, and Oklahoma State University. Those folks have done a lot to help us provide assistance and support to county government.

The SBOE subcommittee had its first meeting and discussed a basic overview of public service valuation guidelines. We were pleased with the first meeting, but lots of work lies ahead as we head into the busiest time of year for public service. We're looking forward to working with the subcommittee, interested companies, counties, and schools.

We hope everyone has a great holiday and enjoys this wonderful time of year.

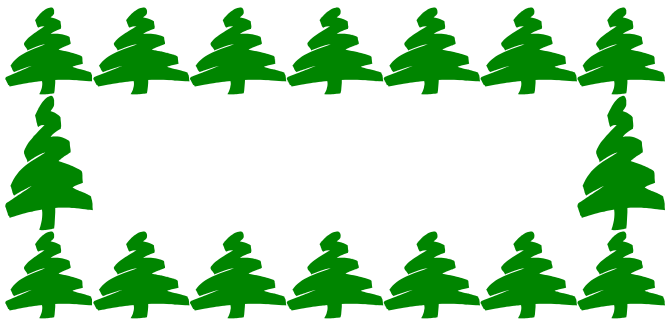
Jeff Spelman

P.S. Anwar Caddo: "Ten years from now you won't remember the Christmas when you got a Scum Buster Cleaner, but you will remember family and friends. So don't scream at anyone about the burnt gravy. Focus on what's important."

P.S.S. Christmas is a great time of year, but is also good to remember that hidden among the high expectations this can also be a hard month for lots of people. Specials at Wal-Mart, pictures of other people's cute kids, or expensive goodies can't make up for the reality of Christmas. There are always lots of people missing from the table or gone from our lives. They're often the ones you miss the most at Christmas. There are lots of the new days you'd like trade for the old days. You can tinsel things up, but they're still missing much substance. So remember everyone at Christmas especially those who've lost someone. Have a great Christmas.

Cyndi Heath
Oklahoma Tax Commission
Ad Valorem Division





TOP FIVE QUOTES FOR 2003

I only dread one day at a time. – Charles Schul tz

If you think your 'boss' is stupid remember you wouldn't have a job if they were any smarter. - Albert A. Grant

It's not true that life is one darn thing after another—it's the same darn thing over and over. – Edna St. Vincent Millay

Just when you think you've got the world on a string, someone comes by with a pair of scissors. - Gerie

At the end of your rope? Tie a knot, and SWING. – Leo Buscagl ia



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