



THE ASSESSMENT FILES

COUNTY ASSESSORS ASSOCIATION OF OKLAHOMA

VOLUME 11

OCTOBER 2004

News From The President

Hello Assessor's and Deputies

It seems like October has been a really busy month for me. The CGLC is planning the new legislators orientation and I have been helping with the Assessor's presentation, we have already had several meetings about new legislation with CGLC, and the 4-C committee has meet twice this month working through some glitches.

I was also the keynote speaker for the Oklahoma Association of Tax Representatives. Mike Reynolds was a very gracious host before the meeting and took me to lunch with Greg Veitch and the new OATR president Michael Kemp before my talk. I was very please with the welcome I received and especially pleased with all the thanks I received after my talk. It was interesting to sit and listen to them talk about the challenges of their jobs and how they were approaching these challenges—legislation. It was ironic that we both spend a lot of our time and energy at the capitol. I thought we were more organized than they were in the legislative process.

I'm not sure if I'm ready for all of this to come to an end. What am I going to do with my extra time when my term as President is over? I know I am going to stay active in our association. If anyone has thought that you would like to become more active, please let an officer know. It has really been rewarding, and sometimes a little scary, to have first hand knowledge in everything that effects our organization. Trying to decide what would be the best for all of us is challenging. I hope that I have been impartial about my decisions this last year.

Only a few days until our convention starts and I think everything is pretty much under control. Either that or I haven't thought of something yet! I hope everyone is planning on attending the convention. We will have a good time as always. The officers and I did decide to leave one night open for you to make plans on your own. My office is looking forward to spending an evening shopping and maybe going to see a movie. I hope everyone will agree that it's nice to be able to have some free time. We haven't scheduled a dance, but the hotel promised something special at Chisholms for anyone who wants to go out. We will have bingo. And hospitality rooms thanks to Oklahoma Appraisal and Visual Lease Services. We have also added back, at the request of several assessors, the Presidents reception. We will have a short reception on Thursday afternoon at the close of the session, everyone be sure to drop by.

Frosty Troy will be our keynote speaker on Thursday afternoon and I'm sure he will be full of elec-tion talk. We will also have a presentation by Wade Patterson, Garfield County, on the new hand-held CAMA program. It's always fun to see what there is new in the way of gadgets that could make our jobs easier. And of course we will have a welcome by Jeff McMahan, comments from OSU, and continuing ed credit from Ad Valorem, SA & I have also promised to make a presenta-tion.

Planning a good convention takes a lot of time. Making the convention a success takes your participation. I look forward to seeing everyone in a few days.

Debbie Collins, President



November Flower - Chrysanthemum
November Gemstone—Topaz

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

<i>J.C. Brooks</i>	<i>Jackson</i>	<i>Nov 2</i>
<i>Loretta Hall</i>	<i>Beckham</i>	<i>Nov 9</i>
<i>Phyllis Ray</i>	<i>Grady</i>	<i>Nov 25</i>
<i>Sharon Butler</i>	<i>Seminole</i>	<i>Nov 29</i>

“LEARN FROM
YESTERDAY, LIVE
FOR TODAY, HOPE
FOR TOMORROW.

— ANON.

Inside this issue:

President's News	1
Ad Valorem Update	2
Happy Halloween	3
Announcements	4

AD VALOREM UPDATE

Greetings from the Ad Valorem Division.

We're looking forward to seeing everyone at the County Assessors' Association Convention in November after the election.

Help! We're buried alive over here on Stiles Avenue.

You might even be able to find us going down for the third time in the turmoil of our office. We've taken down all of our cubicles and moved them for installation of some new cable for our computers and removal of an ancient (fifteen year-old) carpet so we've re-arranged our offices. It's been a challenge.

Does anyone ever realize how much junky stuff we accumulate in our state and county offices? We've weeded out lots and still have boxes and boxes of material from the Ad Valorem Task Force and that's been over ten years ago. We'll be back on track in two weeks, but we may be searching for staplers and my desk calendar for years.

Progress on our CAMA Windows update is proceeding. The County Computer Coordination Committee (4-C Committee) lead by Debbie Gentry has suggested that we do some additional work with State Auditor and Inspector (SA&I) to make sure that the two systems "shake hands" properly and the updates are in order.

Rules hearing occurred last week on the process by which we prepare our Business Personal Property Schedule. It's not the schedule itself, but primarily a listing of the sources of information. We had lots of participation in the hearing and we'll keep everyone up-to-date on the process. We had lots of input from various taxpayers.

Training will start soon on the Pen-based system. An article appears in this month's newsletter on the new system. Thanks to Garfield County's Wade Patterson for taking the risk as a new explorer.

We attended the Oklahoma Association of Tax Representatives (OATR) recently. Michael Kemp of Conoco Phillips will take over as President for the next year, and he is eager to get started.

As we close out the County Assessors' Association year, I would like to thank President Debbie Collins, Vice President Denise Heavner, Secretary/Treasurer Ralph Wilson, and Reporter Joy Anderson for all their hard work this year. (Reporter Joy has bugged me for newsletter materials every month.)

As those who have served as an Association officer know, it is a tremendous commitment to put so many extra things on your "TO DO" list. Most county assessors I know are already the busiest people in their communities anyway. So we appreciate their efforts. We had a good meeting with the county assessor leadership for 2006.

Jeff Spelman

P.S. "With some people no matter what you do you're always wrong and whatever you do, it's never enough. Some of them are Yankees and some are Boston Red Sox fans." Anwar Caddo from his book "Making Peace with Difficult People."



HAPPY HALLOWEEN



Can you unscramble these Halloween words?



C LABK

Y ADNC

TUEMSCO

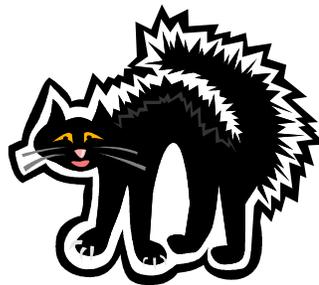
WELOHALNE

PKINUM

KOYPOS

DISPRE

BLACK
CANDY
COSTUME
HALLOWEEN
PUMKIN
SPOOKY
SPIDER



**COUNTY ASSESSORS ASSOCIATION
OF
OKLAHOMA**

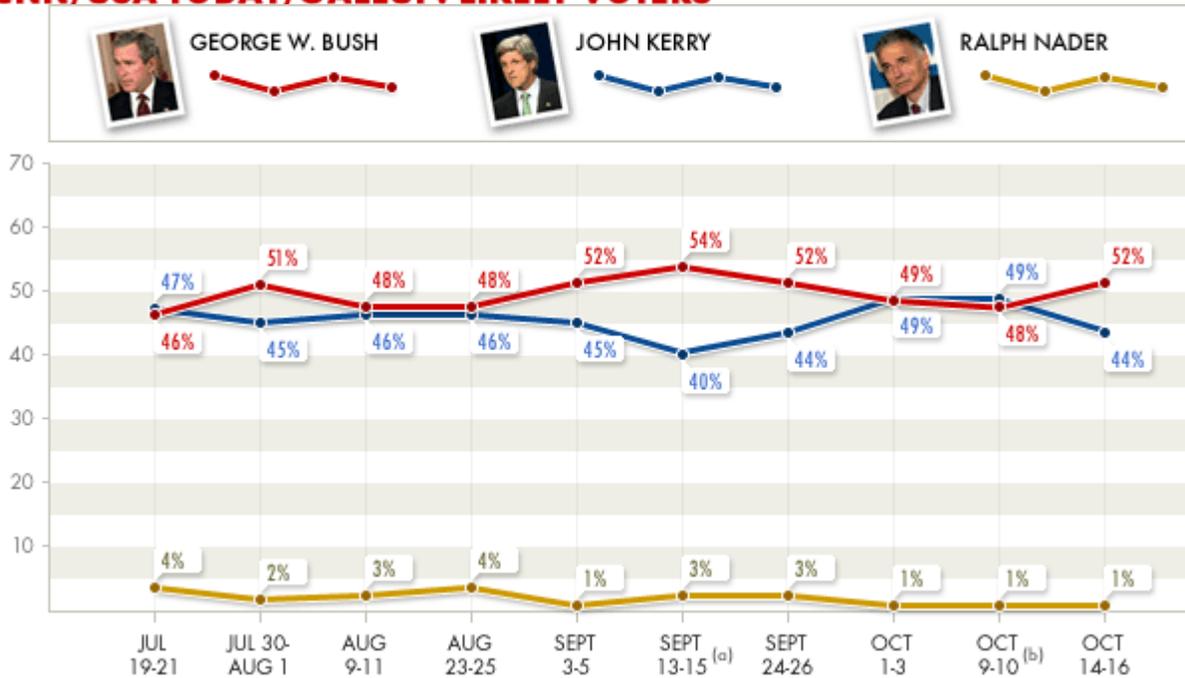
325 N. BDWY
SHAWNEE, OK. 74801

Phone: 405-275-4740
Fax: 405-273-6450

Email: NEWSLETTER@OKASSESSOR.COM



CNN/USA TODAY/GALLUP: LIKELY VOTERS



DO NOT FORGET TO VOTE NOVEMBER 2ND

Mary, Noble County, asks that if anyone has someone they would like mentioned in the Memoriam (Fall Conference), please contact her with a list of the names, position, and years of service.