



THE ASSESSMENT FILES

COUNTY ASSESSORS ASSOCIATION OF OKLAHOMA

VOLUME 1
DECEMBER 2004

News From the President

Holiday Greetings to All!!

I want to thank you for allowing me to serve as your president this coming year. It is a great honor and with all of your help, I believe we will have a productive year. If you have a question or comment about our association, please feel free to contact me. If I can't answer your question, I will find someone who can.

You will find a tentative list of committee assignments included in the newsletter. If you were left on a committee and you choose not to serve this year, please let me know as soon as possible. Or if you are interested in serving on a particular committee, please call me and I will see if we can add your name. If changes are made, we will include a new list in next month's newsletter.

A joint meeting of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee was held on December 1st. We discussed committee assignments and next fall's conference. At the breakout session at the CODA meeting in February, I will be able to share information on the plans we discussed. We will also have an assessor e-mail list at CODA to pass around to make any necessary changes or additions.

Together we are going to have a great year!

Thank you again, *Denise Heavner*

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Committee Membership List 2004-2005

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 regarding meeting dates and times.

Accreditation

Donna Giddens, Chairperson
Robert McAdoo
Leonard Sullivan
Jackie Gooch
Letitia Stockton

Ag/School Land

Robert McAdoo, Chairperson
Janie Batt Bellah
Wade Patterson
Scotty Cosby
Lennet Pisacka

Audit

Kathi Mask, Chairperson
Cathy Carlisle
Gail Hedgcoth
Debbie Collins
Teresa Tallon

Fees

Jim Kelley, Chairperson
Jackie Gooch
Cathy Hokit
Ken Yazel
Robert McAdoo

Forms

Monica Schmidt, Chairperson
Debbie Gentry
Jackie Gooch
Mike Reynolds
Teresa Tallon

Legislative

Jim Kelley, Chairperson
Ken Yazel
Gail Hedgcoth
Debbie Collins
Wade Patterson

Memoriam

Mary Moore, Chairperson
Cherry Hefley

Nomination

Karen Perkins, Chairperson
Jim Kelley-*Southeast*
Wayne Spears-*At-Large*
Lennet Pisacka-*Northwest*
Ron Funck-*Southwest*
Jack O'Neal-*Northeast*

4-C

Debbie Gentry, Chairperson
Kathi Mask
Debbie Collins
Jim Kelley
Wayne Spears

Rules

Debbie Collins, 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

Executive Committee

Executive Officers
and
Jim Kelley-*SE District*
Lennet Pisacka-*NW Dist*
Ron Funck-*SW District*
Jack O'Neal-*NE Dist*
Debbie Collins-*Past Pres*

Board of Directors

Executive Officers
and
Karen Perkins-*2yr*
Wayne Spears-*2yr*
Debbie Croasdale-*1yr*
Donna Giddens-*1yr*

County Assessors Association of Oklahoma

Denise Heavner, President
Cathy Hokit, Treasurer

Ralph Wilson, Vice-President
Todd Mathes, Reporter

Ad Valorem Update

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to everyone!

Year 2004 had some pretty positive achievements. One of the biggest events of the year was the State Board of Equalization (SBOE) study of public service guidelines. The guidelines were examined and reaffirmed by the State Board of Equalization. Public service valuation process is growing more complex every year, but we got our values out earlier even than last year and were able to assist with the various calls we got from counties. We appreciate the companies' efforts in trouble shooting any problems or other issues.

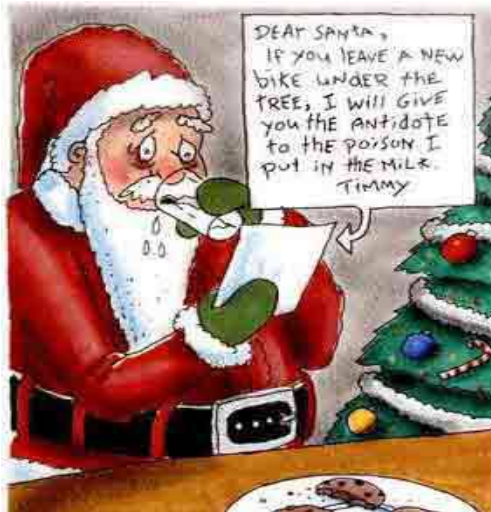
The Windows update is a hard task, but we're pleased with the progress. The program will become more settled in 2005. The Pen Based System is testing well, and it should pay off in the coming years. Thanks to Wade Patterson for his pioneering spirit. We particularly appreciate all the county assessors and deputies who've helped us identify problems on that system, and the 4-C Committee. Debbie Gentry has done a great job working with all the groups involved. I was also pleased with the mobile home program. We got some good assistance from Rosie Edwards and Russ Nostrum over in Motor Vehicle. That program seems to be working very well. Our CAMA Personal Property system is doing well. Many more counties have invested the extra time and effort to get that system underway. We're all pleased with the results in improved accuracy and taxpayer service. I'm proud of the results. Any system that can save work, generate values, and give the taxpayer better service is exactly a step in the right direction.

Troy Frazier has been able to visit a good number of counties, and we appreciate everyone's positive attitude toward the mapping training. As always, it is continually about the people. County assessors and deputies, county treasurers, company representatives, State Auditor and Inspector (SA&I), the Center for Local Government Technology (CLGT), Cooperative Extension, the County Assessors' Association and the Oklahoma Tax Commission have all continued a solid working relationship over the last few years.

We appreciate the hard work of all county assessors and deputies working to improve the Oklahoma ad valorem system and making it better than it was given to us. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Sincerely,
Jeff Spelman, CAE

(In lieu of Jeff's regular Anwar Caddo quote, we give you this:)





Reporter's Welcome

Another year is fading fast as the holiday season is again upon us. I just don't know where 2004 went. (I used to hate when my Dad would make musings like that.) In a few weeks, we will all ring in a new year and 2005 will bring us numerous homestead filings, quite possibly many new applicants for the re-vamped senior valuation freeze, and the general chaos that reigns supreme at most assessor's offices across the state during the hectic assessment/filing period.

I've enjoyed this past year immensely and look forward to serving the Association as reporter for 2005. I know I'm a little green and still learning the ropes of "what it is we all do as assessors", but I can promise to give my all and be the best officer I can be! (That's borrowed from a U.S. Army marketing campaign, you know...) I truly feel that this year's group of officers is a fantastic mix of county assessors that have and will work together to further the County Assessors Association of Oklahoma.

If anyone has anything that needs to be placed in the monthly newsletter, please don't hesitate to contact me. My motto since becoming Washington County Assessor three-and-a-half years ago is: My door's always open. I will continue to use that adage while serving as officer for this organization. My office phone number is (918) 337-2830. My office e-mail address is tmathes@countycourthouse.org

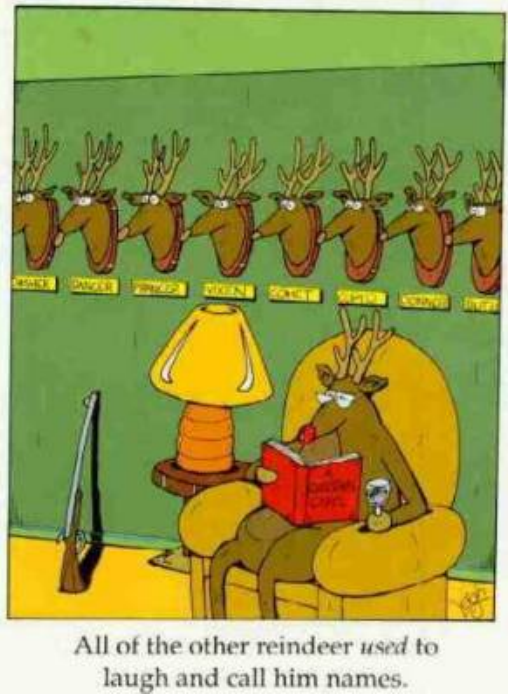
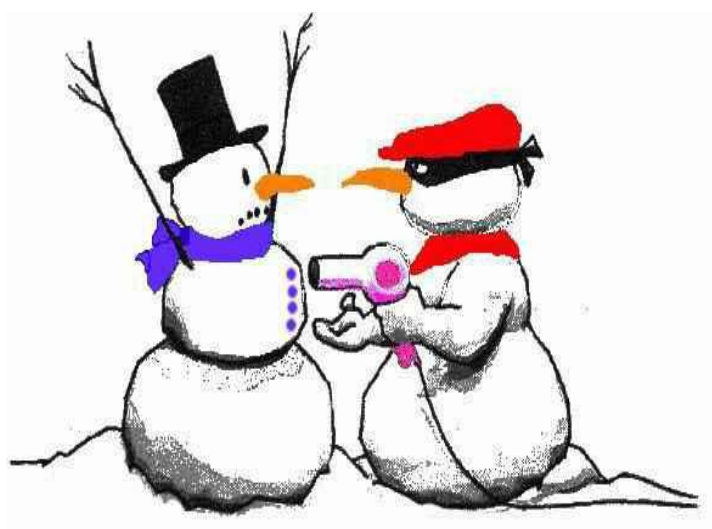
Merry Christmas (sorry, I won't be using any "politically-correct" terminology to replace Christmas) and a Happy New Year!!!

Your Reporter,
Todd Mathes

<u>January Birthdays</u>	
Ruth Darneal (LeFlore)	Jan 1
Kathi Mask (Hughes)	Jan 4
Saundra White (Mayes)	Jan 4
Regina Mengers (Okmulgee)	Jan 7
Pat Daniel (Harmon)	Jan 13
Cherry Hefley (Coal)	Jan 14
Denise Heavner (Cleveland)	Jan 20
Lennet Pisacka (Dewey)	Jan 22
Shelly Sehrt (Cotton)	Jan 28



Holiday Chuckles



Smile! And have a great Christmas Holiday!

- Todd