



## The Ad Valorem Division Director's Notes

It's Thanksgiving time again. At the Ad Valorem Division we're working hard on finishing the Personal Property Schedule, the Equalization Study, and preparing for the next meeting of the State Board of Equalization in December.

We enjoyed the County Assessors' Association Convention. There were lots of bodies missing due to the flu or other illness, and some good folks were not present, but the session was good and informative.

Wade Patterson did a great job as a President in 2009. Ronnie Funck and his team will carry on. He's already on my speed dial. We are looking forward to working with the new officers.

November is a busy month. Tax bills are out and this is a hectic time of year for county government. This can be a stressful month at the county assessors' offices, especially with the present state of the economy. Good taxpayer service and assistance are tough jobs, and sometimes the "thanksgiving time" part of the effort comes later.

We've had some good comments on the web site. It seems to be working well, and I appreciate everyone's patience as it continues to develop.

I'd also like to thank the county assessors for their help this year in working so well with our staff in completing the annual Equalization Study and the various legislative reports we're required to complete during the fall. Thanks.

We've had some real good progress in several counties in completing some major improvements to their data base and fully implementing CAMA. It is an important milestone, and we appreciate everyone's work effort in this area.

As some of you may recall, I've included this message in the last five or six November newsletters. I always enjoy it. Be sure and thank all the people at your work place some time during the Thanksgiving season. It's a great tradition.

We'll see everyone at the State Board of Equalization meeting. Thanks to the county assessors and their staffs for all their hard work this year. I know that many assessors and staffs don't always get a "thank-you", but remember that some people who don't express their appreciation do realize how important the job is. Have a good Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,

Jeff Spelman, CAE

P.S. For unsung heroes everywhere. "Many heroes lived...but all are unknown and unwept, extinguished in everlasting night because they have no spirited chronicler." Anwar Caddo, Ad Valorem Philosopher. Quote borrowed from Horace.

P.S.S. Good luck to Sally Frazier. She is leaving the Ad Valorem Division to take a position with the District Attorney's office. She did a great job for the division and we'll miss her.



<u>Dates</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Location</u>
12/16/2009 - 12/18/2009	<b>Unit 5 (Business Personal Property)</b>	Holiday Inn Ardmore
01/14/2010 - 01/15/2010	<b>Unit 7 (Ag Land Valuation)</b>	Hilton Garden Inn Norman

Greetings to all:

CLGT / ATAP is in the process of completing the spring training schedule and we will mail it to all assessors and post it on our website when complete. We anticipate mailing it next week. We will also mail new transcripts for all in our database, so if you have NOT taken the time to review transcripts provided at the Fall Conference, please take time to review and get back to us with problems. Thanks to the counties responding to our request of information about current employees working in assessor offices; if you have not completed that request, we encourage you to get that information to us as soon as possible.

Thanks to everyone for the support of the Assessor Training and Accreditation Program.

Happy Holidays to all!



Happy Holidays from CCAP

We had good attendance for the four GPS classes held at the Stillwater CLGT site. I think everyone learned something about how GPS actually works and the many possibilities it has to offer the counties.

We have been utilizing a great product over the internet called Webinar. This allows CCAP to hold seminars or training via the internet while the attendees are in their offices. An email is sent to all CCAP AA program users as an invitation with a date and time. Please let us know if you did not receive the invitation for the November 16<sup>th</sup> webinar and we will check our email list addresses. After some editing is done the file for that webinar it will be available on our website, <http://ccap.okstate.edu> .

We would like to pass on to the fans of Sonny and Cher, a heartfelt thanks for the show of support for their '**2009 Comeback (or back from the dead) TOUR**' that debut at the County Assessors Woodstock party.

To the tune of "I Got You Babe"

**Sunny: I can't remember the words to this song, I guess cause it's that I've been dead to long.  
Babe, I've been dead Babe            I've been dead Babe**

*Cher: But honey I feel, a real certain pain, Because of your smell, when it starts to rain.  
Babe, You've been dead Babe            You've been dead Babe*

**Sunny: Your stepping out with all these guys, all I've got is decomposing thighs.  
Babe, I've been dead Babe,            I've been dead Babe**

*Cher: We get into discussions like this, And Babe, I guess its brain cells that you miss.  
Babe, You've been dead Babe,            You've been dead Babe*

**Sunny: If, I ever call you my wife, It will have to be in **YOUR** next life.  
Babe, I've been dead Babe,            I've been dead Babe**



With the holiday season upon us I take this opportunity to look back upon 2009 and express my sincere thanks to all of our local chapter officers and members for their help & support. Things simply wouldn't have happened without your hard work & dedication. I personally want to thank Doug Warr & Gary Snyder for their diligent work in developing our locally sponsored IAAO classes. Their dedication has provided countless hours of experience and education which we all know is the key to our profession.

Our Annual "Dutch" luncheon held during the OKC Fall Conference was wonderful. The food was great and having the extra elbow room was really nice. In case you missed it, James Mallory, GIS Director for Oklahoma County, provided a look inside his world of mapping. James delivered a presentation detailing how Oklahoma County responded to 2 natural disasters using their public GIS website. The chapter officers also presented a new idea to celebrate the local chapter's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2010. Watch for more details concerning the "Keyes" Award in honor of the chapters 1<sup>st</sup> President George Keyes. I will be forming a sub committee soon to develop award nominations and criteria. We will also post this information on the local chapter's website <http://ok-iaao.oklahomacounty.org/>. I think we also have something planned for our "Founding Fathers" in 2010. ☺

Still looking for that "perfect" Christmas gift, perhaps you might like to sponsor a new member to our local chapter. Annual dues are only \$10. We love new faces ☺

**Your 2010 officers:**

- President – Mike Morrison, Oklahoma County
- Vice President – Keith Hulsizer, Tulsa County
- Treasurer/Secretary – Daniel Jenkins, Cleveland County

**Executive Board:**

- Doug Warr – OSU/CLGT
- Jeff Spelman – Oklahoma Tax Commission

**Executive Committee members:**

- Wade Patterson, Garfield County
- Todd Mathes, Washington County
- Gary Snyder, OSU/CLGT

**IAAO Representative:**

David Tinsley, Cleveland County  
Gary Snyder, OSU/CLGT

**Mike Morrison**

**Oklahoma County Assessor's Office**

**Comptroller & Web Designer**

**(405) 713-7148**

<http://www.oklahomacounty.org/assessor>

Email: MicMor@OklahomaCounty.org



## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Clayton Twyman- 2  
Glendel Rushing- 5  
Mistie Dunn-5  
Peggy Williams- 10  
Leonard Sullivan- 12  
Wade Patterson- 12  
Ronda Greer- 12  
Rhonda Pritchett- 22  
Trina Williams- 24  
Guyla Hart- 29



---

## Assessor Updates:

Mistie Dunn is the new assessor for Woodward County. Mistie took over the first of December. Mistie has worked in the assessor's office just over 14 years. So we would like to wish Mistie good luck as she takes over for Debbie Gentry, who retired at the end of last month. The contact information; address, phone, e-mail, etc.; will be the same.\

Debbie Gentry, the retired Woodward County assessor, has asked that I pass along a new personal e-mail address for her. Debbie's new e-mail address is [debbie55@cebridge.net](mailto:debbie55@cebridge.net) .

## Reporter's Corner:

Well the past couple of weeks, no the past month, has been absolutely crazy around here. We finally were able to freeze the tax roll after solving problems with budgets and the levies. This week I planned on getting my last newsletter out on time, but changing out servers took longer than I had anticipated. So my last newsletter is a little late but here it is. I'm having Monica sent it as I have lost some e-mail addresses and groups from my address book.

I believe I said thank you in my article last month, but just in case I didn't I'll say it again. Thank you for allow me to serve as the association reporter this past year. The job of putting the newsletter together and getting it out timely can be tasking at times, but it was also fun and learning experience.

I would now like to thank the association for the vote of confidences in electing me to serve this next year as secretary/treasurer for the association. Monica has already past the files, plastic tubes, boxes and funds over to me. So I have been taking care of the secretary things and opening an account. I am looking forward to and excited about working with the other officers this coming year.

I would like to wish everyone a safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!

Scott