

Well the festivities of the recent Christmas Holiday Season have passed and one of the busiest times of our year is fast approaching. We're finalizing plans for the first CODA conference of the year. There are some changes coming, which we will discuss during our breakout session. Our goal is to implement some changes, which will enhance our lines of communication not only for this year but years to come. I want to thank everyone who indicated an interest and volunteered their time to serve in the Association this year. We've had a large number of retirees and it makes everything run so much smoother when you have people willing to serve where needed to fill the void left by those retiring.

By the way, if you haven't been contacted and are interested in serving please let one of the officers know, we always have room for one more.

I received word the Annual Conference has been finalized and that was great news. I know everyone who attends outside our organization always comment on what a great learning forum it is. In the midst of the budget woes it's good to see the conference will go on as planned.

I want to remind everyone, if you haven't already done so, to meet and greet your Legislators. The Legislative Session is also upon us so it's imperative we keep informed on the issues that affect County Government. We cannot let our guard down and "let Dave and our Legislative Committee do all the work". We hope common sense prevails, but your Legislator needs to have all the facts about the legislation that affects our office, and we are the source for that information. During the CODA conference you will be able to hear some of the candidates running for the various offices in the state and where they stand on some of the issues at hand. Hope to see you at the Conference.

Ronnie Funck,
President



"It's easy to make a buck. It's a lot tougher to make a difference."

Tom Brokaw



A Note From Your Vice President:

Reminder to all CCAP software counties:

You should not DUMP your CAMA values until CCAP has installed the new software program.

The Ad Valorem Bore Em: Stuff Too Exciting for the Forum

Every month the Ad Valorem Division publishes its award winning newsletter, The Ad Valorem Forum. (It won the IAAO Zangerle Award for outstanding newsletters several years ago.)

Osage County Assessor, Gail Hedgcoth, suggested that we not repeat the Director's letter in the Assessor Newsletter, so we've come up with a new contribution. We sometimes have leftover news items that are too exciting for the Forum, so they're printed in our new paper blog: The Ad Valorem Bore Em: Stuff Too Exciting for the Forum. It's our version of a blog except it's not on the internet.

Most Popular Telephone Topic: Our most popular telephone calls this month as you might expect have been questions about filing for veterans exemptions, who is my assessor, and what's a millage?

We get mostly calls intended for Oklahoma County, but we get a lot from Canadian, Cleveland, Pottawatomie, a few from Logan and Lincoln County, and occasionally a call about property in McClain, Kingfisher, or Payne. Luke Weese, our administrative assistant, handles most of these calls.

Best Telephone Call: One county assessor reported to us that a taxpayer called last week kindly reporting that he knew of a new beautiful residential property being built in his county, and he wanted to make sure that this property owned by his ex-wife was properly assessed.

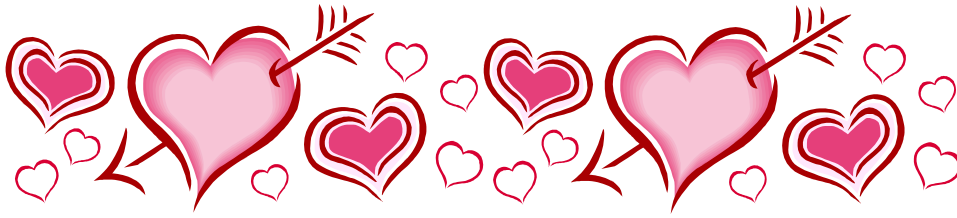
Beloit College Survey: This survey comes out each year on the "mind-set" of America's recent high school graduates and college freshmen. It surveys what young people have experienced all their lives:

- 1) They've never used a card catalog in a library.**
- 2) The Green Giant has always been Shrek, not the giant selling vegetables.**
- 3) Salsa has always outsold ketchup.**
- 4) Women have always outnumbered men in college.**
- 5) There have always been flat screen TVs.**

Assessor Website seems to be working well: We've had 1,239 hits or visits to the web site. If you are an assessor and didn't get a password, call Carol Prewett if you want to get one.

Best Items to Remember: Public Service Renditions will go out about February 14. (Valentine's Day). The Public Service Capitalization Rate Conference will be March 25 and 26.

Best Piece of Advice (Courtesy of Craig County): In order to get your Abstract and Assessment Roll prepared: **COUNT BACKWARDS.** Figure out the last day that the abstract is due, count number of days for County Board protest, filings for protests, and taxpayer notices. **REMEMBER: A NOTICE THAT IS NOT TIMELY OR CORRECTLY MAILED IS NOT VALID.** Check with your D.A. to make sure you've followed all legal requirements.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

FEBUARY



Teresa Morris – 5
Karen Perkins – 14
Nancy Hill – 18
Carey Pearsall – 26
Ken Yazel – 27
Phillip McCoy – 28
Linda Jordan – 28





As of January 23rd our local chapter is officially 25 years in the making. Happy Anniversary!!!! ☺ We invite everyone to be a part of our chapter and experience all of the great things the International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) has to offer. Experience, Education, & Recognition are a simple step away. Join our local chapter today for only \$10 a year and start enjoying the benefits of being a member of a great group of assessing folks. If you are

already a member, “Thank You”, perhaps you would like to bring a friend/co-worker?

The Oklahoma IAAO Chapter will be meeting during the CODA conference in OKC at the Biltmore Hotel. Specifically, Wednesday, February 10th, 2010 immediately following the Assessor’s Break-out inside the Cumberland Room. Should be around 3:30 or 4:00 PM. ☺ Please join us as we will discuss the chapter’s next class offering, the latest details on the chapter’s new “Keyes” Award & how you can be a part of it, and a few surprises on how we will be celebrating our 25th Anniversary. ☺

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CTP (County Training Program)

The County Training Program at OSU has recently released the 2009 edition of the *Handbook for County Treasurers of Oklahoma*. This handbook is also available on-line where it can be read, or downloaded, or printed. The handbook is not linked to the CTP website, and you must enter the specific URL to access the site: http://agecon.okstate.edu/ctp/handbook_treasurer.asp The password is *treas*.

Just a reminder, *the Purchasing Handbook for Oklahoma Counties* is also available on-line and is updated as the need arises so that the on-line version is always the most current. <http://agecon.agec.okstate.edu/ctp/handbook.asp> The password is *purch*.

We are now working on producing *a Handbook for the County Sheriffs of Oklahoma*, which will cover primarily administrative duties.

Contact Judy Rudin at the CTP office if you have any problems or questions regarding the handbooks. ctp@okstate.edu or 405-744-6160.

Judy Rudin
Local Government (Communications) Specialist
County Training Program
Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service
Oklahoma State University
405-744-6168

THE LEGISLATION CORNER



I have attached a list of the bills that I am aware of. If anyone knows of any others, please let me know about them. We will discuss the bills at CODA during the Assessor's break out session.. If you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact any of us on the Legislative Committee.

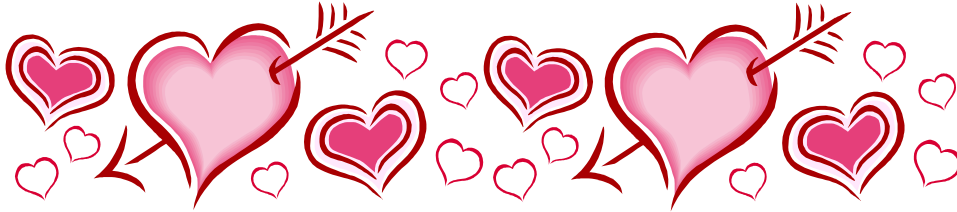
Thank You,
Jim

P.S. The attachment to this newsletter is the list of bills. Change your printing options to legal paper and to landscape before printing.



“No matter how busy you are you must take time to make the other person feel important.”

Mary K Ash



REPORTER'S NOTES

There is nothing wrong with admitting you've made a mistake, so long as you have corrected it and learned from that mistake. Three more pieces of advice when working in word or excel:

1. SAVE !
2. SAVE !
3. SAVE !

There is nothing more frustrating than having to redo what you just lost...due to stupidity! (I've only had to do this once so far (this month!).

How do you like the new article from The Tax Commission? I did suggest to Jeff that it would be interesting if he could come up with another article for our newsletter since everyone reads The Ad Valorem Forum; they basically skip over his article in our newsletter. And he so willingly obliged. Thank You Jeff.

Congratulations David Tinsley for making IAAO Rep of the Month! Did everyone see the article in the IAAO FAIR & Equitable? I've included the article for your reading pleasure below.

Congratulations also go out to Mr. Greg Harmon with OTC. He won Fairview Citizen of the Year!

I know everyone has heard this many many times before, but the Legislative Committee can't stress it enough, PLEASE stay in touch with your Representative(s) and Senator(s) during this legislative year. It is and will be very vital to keep them informed. Besides, they actually want to hear from you. A lot of the time, what seems like common sense to you and I is not so for someone who does not work in our office. If by chance you do not get notices from Jerry Stone, his email is JERSTO@oklahomacounty.org, just contact him and request to be put on his mailing list and he will start sending you daily updates.

If you have any news, please let me know. I'd be more than happy to include it in the newsletter.

Gail



“When someone tells you nothing is impossible, as them to dribble a football.”

Unknown



IAAO Rep of the Month—David Tinsley, Oklahoma



Oklahoma IAAO Rep, David Tinsley has 29 years of experience in the real property valuation profession with the Cleveland County Assessors' office. This year, on March 1, David was appointed Assessor.

David has been a member of IAAO since 1987. He holds a Certified Senior Inspector license from the National Association of Property Inspectors, where he is a charter member. David is accredited through the State of Oklahoma. He is also accredited through IAAO and is currently pursuing the RES designation. David has also held several positions at the state level including President of the Oklahoma Chapter. David has held the state Rep position since 2005.

David says that there are many things that he can attribute to IAAO. “What stands out as no. 1 for me is education. The many courses and the many instructors have made a big impact on my career and my position. Over the years, the taxpayers and the tax reps have been appreciative of the knowledge I have received from IAAO. Once they found out that I was associated with an international organization, they were not quick to judge the integrity of our office. Not only have the courses been invaluable, but also the knowledge and the sharing of knowledge amongst other members.”

My favorite memory from conference would be my first Rep meeting in Anchorage, Alaska, in 2005. I was overwhelmed at first—finding out what my responsibility would be and what our purpose was. It was the encouragement of people like Marilee Fuller, CAE, and George Donatello, CMS, that showed me I could do it. Because of experiences like that first meeting, I now look forward to volunteering at the IAAO booth at conference. It's always great to meet the attendees from different states and countries. I also enjoy visiting with different Reps and the IAAO staff. I feel that volunteering is a small way that I can give back.”

David received his B.A. from Northwestern Oklahoma State University. He lives in Norman with his wife, Joyce. He enjoys reading Western novels and playing golf.

As a Rep and a professional, I have come to rely on the articles in F&E and the information shared among IAAO members.

