

# FRONTLINE

*"Increasing Awareness of Assessment Administration Through Frontline Communication"*

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Fall 2003

## 2002-2003 Chapter Officers

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## IAAO Conference: Coming to a City near You

The IAAO Conference, to be held in Nashville, Tennessee, September 14-17, 2003, will be more accessible to KY Chapter members than it has been in years. For this reason, a record number of about seventy Kentuckians are expected to be in attendance in Nashville.

This year's IAAO Conference will feature the usual strong educational program with a diverse array of topics covering every aspect of property tax assessment administration. Five tracks have been established to assist attendees in navigating through the extensive educational program, including Leadership, Appraisal and Valuation, Technology and Data Issues, World Wide Web Issues, and Tax Policy.

All official conference events, with the exception of the Golf Tournament, are within walking distance of the three conference hotels. The official headquarters of the Kentucky Chapter will be the Doubletree Hotel, at 315 Fourth Avenue North (corner of Fourth and Deaderick). Not only is the Doubletree the least expensive of the three conference hotels, it is also close to Printers Alley and other downtown attractions.

On Monday, September 15 at 6:00 p.m., a joint meeting will be held between the Kentucky and Tennessee Chapters of IAAO at the Sports Page, located at 419 Union Street, across the street from the Doubletree. All members are urged to attend this special event and get to know our colleagues from south of the border. And at 9:00 on the same night, the Kentucky and Tennessee Chapters are teaming with the Massachusetts Chapter, host of next year's IAAO Conference, to sponsor a Membership Appreciation Party. This event will be held in the Capitol Ballroom at the Sheraton Hotel, located at 623 Union Street. Music will be provided by the Jimmy Church Band, a locally favorite group which also performed at the 1988 IAAO Conference in Nashville.

The Welcome Reception on Sunday, September 14 at 6:30 p.m., will be at the Country Music Hall of Fame, at 222 Fifth Avenue South. On Tuesday, September 16 at 6:30 p.m., conference attendees will be treated to The Nashville Party at Ryman Auditorium, featuring a barbecue dinner and live music. This facility, located at 116 Fifth Avenue North, was the original home of the Grand Ole Opry and has been completely restored. And on Wednesday, September 17 at 6:30 p.m., the traditional Installation Banquet will be held at the Renaissance Hotel, 611 Commerce Street.

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### Executive Committee 2002-2003

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### CONFERENCE 2003

*(Continued from Page 1)*

Chapter members are reminded not to miss the annual awards breakfast, to be held on Tuesday, September 16 at 8:00 a.m. The Kentucky Chapter has been nominated to receive the Outstanding Chapter award, which would be the third time in four years for this honor. And Frontline has been nominated to receive the Zangerle award, presented annually to the best property tax publication.

After next year's meeting in Boston, the IAAO Conference journeys to Anchorage, Alaska in 2005. So take advantage of this year's easy trip to Nashville and see the greatest show in property tax!

### WEAR YOUR CHAPTER WELL

Don't forget to support the chapter and wear your IAAO apparel Monday night at the meeting and Tuesday morning at the awards breakfast.

Jack Parr will be the scheduled speaker at the opening ceremonies of the IAAO conference in Nashville. His topic will be dealing with the public in stressful times. After a successful basketball career, Parr founded Jack Parr Associates, a human resources development firm in 1969.

Jack Parr and Associates has delivered their customer service and leadership training program to nearly 400,000 employees at companies such as American Express, Hallmark Cards, and Hershey Foods, as well as many government agencies.

### DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!!

The election for officers of the Kentucky Chapter is underway, don't forget to cast your vote. Ballots were sent to members Aug. 31 and must be returned by October 1, 2003. If you did not receive a ballot, contact Susan Bailey at (502) 564-8340. The officers will be announced and installed at the fall meeting Wednesday, October 15. Also don't forget to submit your nomination for Chapter Member of the Year. This award will also be presented Wednesday night.

## Letter From Your President

Wow...the year is almost over and it seems like it was just yesterday when I was being sworn in as your president. So many things have happened this year and the time has flown by. Our country went to War to Free Iraq and our chapter members responded by sending phone cards to our troops. Who would have imagined that within one month we collected over 29,000 minutes? We have heard from several men and women who received these cards and they have all said that the support and prayers of people such as our members kept them sane overseas.

We managed to make our charitable project a reality within a matter of three months. The Official Kentucky Officials Cookbook is now in print and we are doing quite well in sales. I am excited about the presentation to The Ronald McDonald House at our meeting in Louisville.

The National Conference is only a week away. Several of our chapter members are going to attend. Our chapter is meeting with the Tennessee Chapter on Monday and I hope that we have a strong delegation to show everyone how dedicated our chapter members are.

My term as president will end in less than 6 weeks now. This year will always be a special one to me since you all found it in your heart to elect me to serve in your behalf.

I hope and pray that I have not let anyone down. I know that I owe thanks to many people but most of all to my staff who covered for me while I was away trying to make our chapter the best chapter once again. Our county did a major reassessment this year and it would not have been possible without the people that I have working in my office making sure that the work went on while I was gone.

Thanks to everyone.... I will still be around to help in any way that I can. Please everyone unite around Nick, as I know that we will continue being The Most Outstanding Chapter.

Nancy

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## Letter from the Vice-President

*"For the times, they are a-changin'..."*

When Bob Dylan penned these words in early 1964, he became more of a prophet than he could ever have imagined. Today, they state the obvious.

The property tax business changes like the weather in Kentucky. Drought one year and monsoon the next. Out with the old administration and in with the new. Let's hear it for the latest tax reform plan, where nobody pays more and

the budget crisis is solved. Meanwhile, the work remains to be done, as we crank up our antique taxing system for another year.

As the winds of change blow through Frankfort, we look for signs of stability. Those of us who have chosen to remain in this profession see one current of continuity that did not exist the last time an administration came to town: the Kentucky Chapter of IAAO. After seven years of growth, this organization has evolved into a mainstream expression of cooperation and shared vision between state and local property tax professionals that never existed before. Any new leadership will have to recognize the importance of the chapter in building relationships within the system.

Where do we go from here? Our course from the beginning has served us well. We must continue to strengthen our education program and give back to the community, working with the impending changes as opportunities to be exploited. When the winds become a tempest, the Chapter's foundation of solid values will stand.

Thanks always for your support,

Nick

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**COOKBOOKS, COOKBOOKS AND MORE  
COOKBOOKS**

The Official Kentucky Official's Cookbook has proven to be a successful project. However, we still have a couple of thousand books left to sell. We have received only positive feedback on our project.

We have cookbooks in 83 counties now. For the counties that do not have any yet, please contact Cindy Meholovitch or Nancy Bock to arrange to get some to sell. We need to have 100% participation in order to make our project a HUGE SUCCESS.

Remember that half of the profits will be presented to the Ronald McDonald House and the other half will be given to the scholarship fund for our chapter. We will make a presentation at our Fall Conference Chapter Meeting to a Director from the Ronald McDonald House. Therefore we will need all counties who have sold any cookbooks to please send the money in to Mike Whitaker prior to October 1<sup>st</sup> so that we can calculate the profits for our presentation. Remember that if you have not sold the books by then to just send the money in as you receive it. The chapter still owes for the last printing.

We need volunteers to help sell our cookbooks in Nashville (see related article). IAAO has graciously

given us a table in the expo hall to sell the books at no charge to our chapter. We will also have the cookbooks for sale at the Monday night functions with our chapter. Please take the time to thank Dave Wheelock and his staff if you see them in Nashville for helping us out.

Once again thanks to all of our chapter members for making this project a success. It does take some effort to make a sale, however when you think about what we get in return it makes it all worthwhile. Please keep selling the cookbooks.

**FALL CONFERENCE  
UPDATE**

The Kentucky Chapter of IAAO will meet Wednesday, October 15 at 5:00. Items on the agenda include installation of new officers, the announcement of the Member of the Year winner, and a special presentation to Ronald McDonald House. Following the meeting there will be a reception from 6:00 - 8:00.

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD  
MEN AND WOMEN**

COOKBOOKS WILL BE ON SALE DURING THE IAAO CONFERENCE IN NASHVILLE IN THE EXPO HALL. WE NEED OUR CHAPTER MEMBERS TO HELP US WITH THE SALES. WE HAVE TO BE AT OUR TABLE IN THE EXPO HALL EVERY HOUR THAT IT IS OPEN SO PLEASE HELP US WITH THIS JOB. THE EXPO HALL WILL BE OPENED THE FOLLOWING TIMES:

SUNDAY 2:00PM-5:00PM  
MONDAY 10:00AM-2:30PM  
TUESDAY 10:00AM-3:00PM

PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO HELP US WITH AN HOUR OF YOUR TIME TO MAKE OUR PROJECT A SUCCESS. CONTACT NANCY BOCK AT 270-444-4712 TO SCHEDULE A TIME TO HELP.

## KENTUCKY IAAO CHAPTER GOOD DEEDS ARE APPRECIATED

While attending the Kentucky Property Valuation Administrator's (PVA) Association Conference this past summer in Covington, at the banquet on Thursday evening, June 5, 2003, I was privileged to accept on behalf of Ailson Sanders (Deputy PVA) her Senior Kentucky Assessor Designation.

There is an indepth curriculum of Kentucky Courses that relate to laws and policies governing property valuation in the state of Kentucky and courses also taught by the International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) which begin with the fundamentals of property assessment standards, to more advanced courses that may relate to the income approach to property valuation. Both the Kentucky and IAAO courses are challenging and rewarding, of which many, I would describe of college level quality.

Not only was I proud of Ailson's accomplishment of receiving her SKA designation, but equally proud of all the deputies in the Edmonson county PVA office as our entire staff have earned their SKA designation.

I hope that we see many other PVAs encourage their staff to study for their professional designations, not only is it a rewarding experience but shows our desire to better serve our communities.

To the membership and officers of the Kentucky Chapter of the IAAO, please accept our sincere thanks for their support shown to us, by awarding deputies scholarships to attend the IAAO courses. The scholarship program is one of the many good things that the Kentucky Chapter of IAAO is doing, along with its members working for several charitable causes.

Benton A. Cowles  
Edmonson County PVA



*Edmonson County PVA Office  
Benton Cowles (seated), Lennie  
Slaughter, Ailson Sanders and  
Teresa Cowles*

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE NEWS

The Education Committee continues to meet every two months in an effort to strengthen the education program. At the most recent meeting, held August 21 at the GIS Conference in Louisville, the committee recommended several changes.

Due to increased costs of holding classes, a new fee system for IAAO Courses was devised. Chapter members will now pay \$325 (up from \$300) and nonmembers will pay \$425 (up from \$325). This change was necessary if the Chapter is to continue providing quality education while supporting the scholarship program.

Recruitment of instructors continues to be a focus for the Education Committee. Several courses are in need of backup and lead instructors. Committee members have been contacting PVAs in order to determine if there is any interest in becoming instructors.

Two new GIS courses are under development. Subcommittees have been named and course outlines are due to be presented at the next Education Committee meeting. The courses will be KY Course 65, GIS in Assessment Administration, and KY Course 66, Parcel Maintenance in GIS. The latter course will be taught in a hands-on environment, the former in a demonstration style presentation.

Scholarship program rules were discussed, and it was reiterated that persons accepting scholarships for any course must attend the entire course and take the examination.

The Course Connections program was reviewed and a subcommittee, composed of Nick Kearney, Lee Martin and Janice Stokes, will develop a new interview format.

The Appeals Video project was reviewed, and the committee is seeking a new production company. Dip Stafford is investigating.

The feasibility of coordinating educational efforts with the Tennessee Chapter was discussed, in light of the upcoming meeting in Nashville. Items proposed included instructor sharing, joint events and reciprocal member discounts.

The annual education survey is complete and work has begun on the 2004 schedule of classes, which should be available for distribution at the fall PVA Conference in Louisville October 13 - 16. Visit the education program roundtable on October 14 for this information, as well as for 2004 scholarship applications.

PVAs are also reminded to turn in recertification forms from the GIS Conference or the Governor's Local Issues Conference. Hours earned after November 30, 2003 will count toward the training incentive for 2004, and hours earned before December 31, 2003 will count toward the 2003 expense allowance. All questions regarding the status of hours of education should be addressed to the Education and Research branch at (502) 564-8340.

The next meeting of the Education Committee will be on October 13 in Louisville at 11:00 a.m. If you have any comments or concerns, please feel free to contact Neila Monroe, Chair, at (859) 734-6330, or via e-mail at [NeilaL.Monroe@mail.state.ky.us](mailto:NeilaL.Monroe@mail.state.ky.us).

## 2003 IAAO EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTION RESULTS

The ballots for the 2003 election have been counted and the final results for the Executive Board election are in. Wayne Trout of Virginia was elected Vice-President. Fred Chumra assumes the Presidency for 2003-2004. Wayne Llewellyn, CAE, was named President Elect of IAAO. Mr. Llewellyn will succeed to the Presidency in 2004. The following people were elected to the Executive Board:

Position #1	David Jackson
Position #2	Lath Harris
Position #3	John Moreland
Position #4	Delores Cooney

The new officers will be sworn in Wednesday, September 17, at the IAAO Conference in Nashville.

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## GIS CONFERENCE REVIEW

The 2003 Kentucky GIS Conference, held at the Louisville Hyatt Regency August 18-21, drew over 400 people to the state's annual showcase of geographic information systems technology. Property tax personnel continued to show strong support at the GIS Conference, with over 50 PVAs, deputies and Revenue Cabinet employees among the attendees. Several property tax sessions were featured on the agenda, covering the role of the

GIS in the courthouse, the mine mapping initiative, and parcel conversion.

Over 100 speakers led the program, which consisted of a general session, 72 presentations in 28 concurrent sessions, and seven optional workshops ranging from three hours to two days in length. The workshops, scheduled on the day before and the day after the two-day conference program, drew 137 attendees. The exhibit hall was filled with 19 representatives of the private sector and five representatives of state government for a total of 24 exhibits.

This was the tenth Kentucky GIS Conference, and the theme of "Ten Years of Discovery" celebrated this milestone, as well as the bicentennial year of the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery's departure from the Louisville area. The Executive Track, geared toward government officials, managers and others without a prior working knowledge of GIS, was very well attended. These and other sessions reported standing room only crowds, despite the fact that there were four concurrent sessions set up for 100 people each operating continuously for two days.

Once again the Kentucky GIS Conference has demonstrated that there is a growing interest in GIS on the part of local government officials in Kentucky. The date and location of next year's GIS Conference has yet to be determined, but will probably be announced in the next issue of Frontline.

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## DESIGNATION UPDATE

As of January 1, 2003, candidates for an IAAO designation are required to complete IAAO Workshop 171, IAAO Code of Ethics, Canons and Standards of Professional Conduct, or the IAAO's Internet online Standards of Professional Practice and Ethics Workshop. If you were a candidate for a designation before January 1, 2003, you are not required to complete this course.

The Professional Development Program Subcommittee has revived the PDP newsletter. The newsletter contains valuable information for anyone interested in the designation program. It can be accessed on the IAAO website at [www.iaao.org](http://www.iaao.org), under Education.

The committee is also exploring the possibility of a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) designation. They are currently looking a curriculum and the recertification process associated with developing a new GIS designation.

Anyone with questions about IAAO professional designations can contact Jeff Kelley, designation committee chair, or Ron Johnson, IAAO Professional Designation Advisor for Kentucky.

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**HEALTH INSURANCE OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR 2004**

Health insurance open enrollment for state employees, including PVAs and Deputies, will be September 15 - October 3, 2003. Open enrollment is every employee's opportunity to make changes without a qualifying event. **Please read all materials carefully.** Decisions made during open enrollment are in effect for one year and cannot be changed without a qualifying event.

**There is an important change in this year's open enrollment.** The commonwealth will no longer automatically assign employees to the lowest cost single option A plan, when an application is not received. **If you are required to make a change in your health insurance for 2004 (i.e. your carrier is no longer available), and you fail to complete the necessary application, you will not have health insurance for 2004,** and will not be allowed to enroll until the next open enrollment period, unless you have a qualifying event that would allow you to enroll.

At the time the insurance handbook was printed, the carrier availability for Boyd, Carter, Elliott, Greenup, Henderson, Lawrence, and Union counties had not been finalized. Once carrier availability has been finalized for these counties, a separate document will be mailed to employees living and working in these counties.

We have scheduled several training classes between September 5<sup>th</sup> - September 18<sup>th</sup>:

September 5 <sup>th</sup>	Springfield - Days Inn	10:00
*September 9 <sup>th</sup>	Bowling Green - KRC Field Office	10:00
*September 11 <sup>th</sup>	Ashland - KRC Field Office	1:00
September 16 <sup>th</sup>	Frankfort - Training Room D	1:00
September 17 <sup>th</sup>	Frankfort - Training Room D	10:00
September 18 <sup>th</sup>	Frankfort - Training Room D	10:00

\*These classes will be taught by Carolyn Bradshaw of KRC Personnel. A sign-in sheet will be available for the PVA & Staff that would like to attend a session closer than others scheduled.

All of the Frankfort classes will be at 200 Fair Oaks Lane on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor in Training Room D. Please contact the PVA Administrative Support Branch to sign up for the class you plan to attend. The space is limited in all classes due to the room accommodations.

**BARLOW APPOINTED BRANCH MANAGER**

Pat Barlow was appointed manager of the MOTAX Branch September 1, 2003. Barlow has been with the Department of Property Valuation since 1997 and most recently was working in the Division of Local Valuation. Barlow has also worked in the PVA office, serving as a deputy in Harrison county for 17 years. She replaces Paul Heightchew, who retired July 31.

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**REGISTRATION REMINDER**

If you have not sent in your registration for fall conference, please do so by September 12. Remember that after September 12, the cost of registration goes up to \$95.00. If you haven't already made hotel reservations, you should do so immediately.

Parking in the garage adjacent to the hotel is \$9.00 a day and can be added to your room charge when you check out. There are other parking lots nearby if that parking garage is full.

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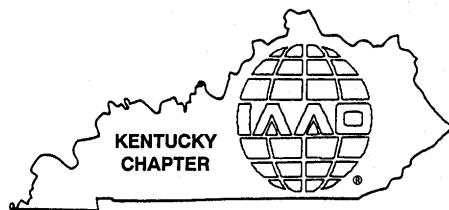
**TWO OF OUR OWN BECOME ONE**

Former Commissioner Vince Lang and former Campbell County Chief Deputy Kellie Roberts were united in marriage on July 26, 2003 in Maui, Hawaii. Vince and Kellie are still active chapter members.

Please take time to congratulate the happy couple and wish them well on their marriage. They are making their home in Frankfort. Vince is the Executive Director of the County Judge Executive's Association and the Revenue Cabinet Division of State Valuation now employs Kellie.



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# FRONTLINE

*"Increasing Awareness of Assessment Administration Through Frontline Communication"*

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*Winner of the IAAO Outstanding Chapter Award 2000 and 2002*

*Frontline is a publication of  
the Kentucky Chapter of the  
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