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○ ISSUE 2 | ○ VOLUME 7 | ○ YEAR 2011

Alumni Newsletter—December 2011

# TGMI

Tennessee Government Management Institute

TGMI ALUMNI MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITHIN STATE GOVERNMENT!

*TGMI Alumni Network Objective #1: Promote the interest in and support of TGMI.*

## Word from the Chair

As your Chairman for 2011, I want to say that I have had a mountain-top experience in working with the best Steering Committee ever! It was the most rewarding and memorable experience for me since my entire Class of 2006, flew over the Great Smoky Mountain Chimney Tops in a Black Hawk helicop-

ter. I especially want to thank each and every one on the Steering Committee, along with the program parents UT and DOHR, including our two main best supporters and friends Trish Pulley, and Tom Kohntopp. The following are my brief comments and ruminations of the



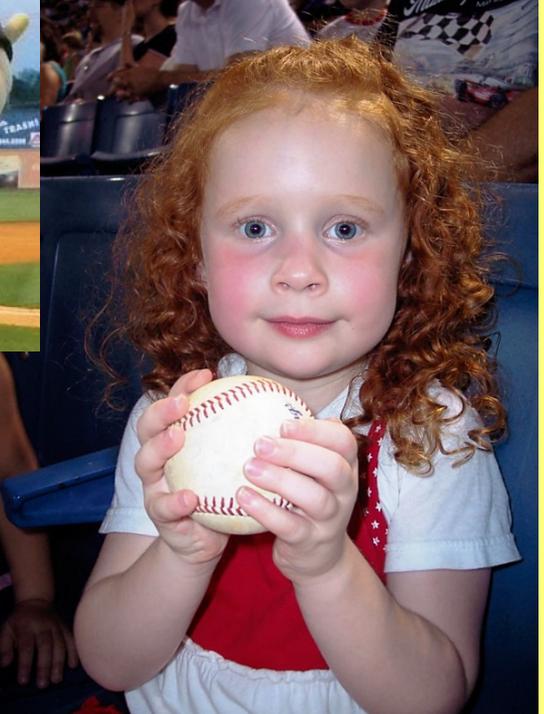
## Welcome to Class of 2011

Passing on the Gavel



# TGMI Alumni Night with the Nashville Sounds

Lots of fun and Smiles



And we had such good seats, we even got a GAME BALL!!

# TGMI Alumni Night with the Nashville Predators



# TGMI Class of 2011

## Class Officers



**Dawn Taylor, DHS**  
Class Reporter

When I attended TGMI orientation and I heard past classes talk about the bonding experience and how through TGMI I will make life lasting friendships, I questioned the validity of those statements. How can you make such connections after just 2 weeks filled with meetings trainings and studying? How do you learn about these strangers let alone become friends? Sure, I knew a few individuals from my division or building but how do you make connections to 32 people from different divisions, locations and backgrounds and become so close you can't wait to see them at the next TGMI event and why are we going to eat so much catfish?

Looking back I realize we were much more alike than I realized. We had some very important common themes that made our bonding so natural it would have happened even if we did not start out in a circle that first evening trying to remember each other's names and what did Deanie rhyme with?

First, we were all state employees and there is a identifiable culture in that statement. We all deal with budget issues, personnel problems, public service and all of the variables that go along with being a state employee. When we had activities in class, the problems and solutions were all common and applicable to most of us, we could all relate to each other's pains stresses and successes. We could all take the lessons learned in the ropes course and apply them to our staff meetings budget hearings or new policies and procedures. We learned that sometimes the smallest voice has the biggest answer and we just have to listen for it.

Second, we were all leaders; we led different staff with different jobs but we had the same level of responsibilities, the same long "to-do" lists and the same pressures that comes with leadership. We all recognized the need to be stronger leaders and the need to constantly learn new skills. We were all open to each other's ideas and thoughts and took them to heart when assessing our own abilities. We all understood how many e-mails each other had to look at and the frustration of not having internet service the second week everyone felt.

Thirdly, we all had pride in what we do; knowing the importance in what we did and how it impacts the people we serve was a common theme in all our class mates. We enjoyed what we did and wanted to do it the best we could. There was a competitive streak that came out during some of our activities, the paddle boat competition was brutal, but this was a direct indicator that everyone in the class wanted to do their best and be the best leader we could.

And last we all liked to have fun... I won't report on any specifics but the amount of laughter that came from room 606 definitely contributed to the bonding experiences.

We also bonded through kidney stones, illness and death of a family member all in the first two days of the first week; we saw some of our class mates and their most vulnerable but still working hard to complete the class. We also did not eat catfish at Montgomery Bell, due to last year's flood catfish was not available to us, not one plate of catfish for the class of 2011.

So thinking back, I realize the closeness that comes from your TGMI experience is inevitable, we all share different backgrounds locations and divisions but the commonality in our jobs made the bonding experience easy and natural.

During several of the sessions our facilitators would indicate we were at TGMI because someone in our division saw the potential in us to learn and grow. They were right, as I think of my fellow classmates I see the potential their leaders saw in them. Since TGMI this summer, 6 class members have since received promotions, several have had mentions in cabinet or coalition meetings and there have been several personal successes we have been able to share in.

As a graduate of TGMI, I have taken advantage of all the leadership classes or conferences offered, there is a wealth of knowledge being share with TGMI graduates that we can use to build our skills. I know I will receive great information at these events, but most of all... I can't wait to see my fellow TGMI graduates! Drop Kick Pull!



**Mike Blade, THDA**  
Class President



**Jason Conner, Comptroller**  
Vice President

Dawn Taylor  
Class Reporter



**Brian Ripley, TWRA**  
Mixmaster General



# TENNESSEE GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE

Drop Kick Pull!!!



Class of 2011





# Keynote Speaker

Trish Pulley, Department of Human Resources,  
Class of 2008-I

In October 2011, Trish Pulley had the honor of representing the Department of Human Resources as the keynote speaker at the Louisiana Personnel Council, Inc Annual Education and Training Conference. The conference went extremely well. Her topics discussed were:

*Social Passing in State Government: Overcoming the Performance Evaluation Myth*

Managers and supervisors in many state governments often feel restricted in their ability to truly assess an employee's job performance due to the policies surrounding the evaluation process. This presentation will focus on how to develop a performance assessment process while working

within the organization's policies. Participants will learn how to create accurate job plans, write SMART performance goals, and use a psychological contract in order to create a high performing work environment.

This presentation takes into consideration the principles of adult learning and various learning styles and consists of lecture, discussion, story-telling, and question and answer.

*I Can't Get No Motivation: Overcoming the Motivation Myth in State Government*

Too often the

phrase "government worker" is jokingly seen as an oxymoron. Managers and supervisors in state government agencies often struggle with issues of entitlement thinking, complacency and lack of engagement from employees.

This workshop will focus on how to create a highly engaged culture within the state government workforce. Participants will learn what a highly engaged workforce culture looks like, how to create and sustain such a culture, and how to work within existing policies to motivate employees.

This presentation

*TGMI Alumni Network Objective #2: Provide a forum for the exchange of ideas among Tennessee Government Managers and Executives.*

takes into consideration the principles of adult learning and various learning styles and consists of lecture, discussion, story-telling, and question and answer.

## TGMI HISTORY:

TGMI was created in 2000 for mid-level managers, with supervisory responsibilities, in state government. Each year, in two intensive weeks over a two-month period, TGMI provides thirty of state government's mid managers with the opportunity to broaden their perspectives of management, responsibility, and perspectives of leadership principles and practices. TGMI class members travel to the University of Tennessee in Knoxville and to a Tennessee State Park to develop additional skills and knowledge needed to efficiently manage resources and organizational systems and to analyze and discuss local changes that are rapidly occurring in the business, political and overall workplace environment. The TGMI experience is designed to help class members gain fresh perspectives and enhance their leadership skills.

State managers work "where the rubber meets the road". They must be able to interpret policy and law into workable processes for staff and they must champion change and assure that services to citizens are efficient, effective and customer focused. They must have skills and knowledge to improve workplace performance, interaction and productivity. TGMI provides a forum to develop the knowledge, skills and insight necessary to lead and sustain organizational effectiveness and efficiency in dealing with these challenges.

## Word from the Chair Continued

*TGMI Alumni Network  
Objective #3: Encourage networking and effective partnerships within Tennessee State Government.*

### TGMI Mission

#### Statement:

To provide mid-level managers in Tennessee State Government with management education, networking opportunities and leadership development to become more effective managers and prepare for the leadership challenges of the future.

past year.

I will just reiterate here that TGMI represents the best of what state government can do to put together a super team. The "team" is of course the TGMI Alumni Nation. The main thing here as established is that we represent a true one-of-a-kind state resource. A resource that can be called upon to assist other state managers and employees, to help mentor them and nurture their growth



which directly benefits our customers, the citizens of Tennessee. You know too that we are especially strong and visible when we work to together to encourage not only one another but everyone in state government and management. The opportunities are endless. Please keep in mind going forward that you can volunteer through your Steering Committee to become a mentor, not only to future class members but our vision incorporates a Mentors Bureau to be able to assist all of state government. You can also participate in public service activities, our new Adopt a Highway located on Franklin Road near Harding Place is one shining example. You can speak to the future of Tennessee through our Speakers Bureau and encourage a whole new generation and act as change agents to help dispell old mediocre myths about working for the state. Being a part of TGMI is about making a difference, in yourself, in others, and for the state we love and call home.

Here's my parting thought to our program and everyone involved. Look forward to the coming year, 2012, and embrace your individual challenges, and know that your Steering Committee, under new Chairperson Marilou Cook, will help make it the best year ever. I will be around as Past Chair as well, and if I can be of any assistance to any of you in any way, shape or form, please let me know. I am happy to be at your service.

Thank you all for the opportunity in serving as your Chairman, I appreciate it and will never forget it. I wish every one a peaceful and prosperous Christmastime and New Years.

All best wishes, E. Ross White, Esq. Chairman

# 2012 Steering Committee



Past Chairperson  
E. Ross White  
Class of 2006  
Commerce & Insurance



Chairperson  
Marilou Cook  
Class of 2007  
Finance & Administration



Vice Chairperson  
Debbie Rivers  
Class of 2006  
Department of Revenue



2010 Class Member  
Debbie Knox  
Department of Finance &  
Administration



2010 Class President  
Victor Barnes  
Department of  
Human Services



2011 Class President  
Mike Blade  
TN Housing Development  
Agency



2011 Class Member  
Jason Conner  
Comptroller of the Treasury



Ex-Officio Member  
Trish Pulley  
Class of 2008-I  
Department of Human Resources



At Large Member  
Mark Patterson  
Class of 2000  
Department of Transportation



At Large Member  
Melinda Crutchfield  
Class of 2009  
Comptroller of the Treasury



At Large Member  
Phyllis Hodges  
Class of 2008-II  
Department of Education



At Large Member  
& Newsletter Editor  
April Wright, Class of 2008-I  
Department of Finance  
& Administration



TGMI Historian  
Mike Travis  
Class of 2002  
Department of Finance &  
Administration

Please remember you can always view our Steering Committee Minutes when they are posted to the website:

<http://tn.gov/dohr/TGMI/minutes.html>

# ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

## November 2011 Adopt-A-Highway Community Service Project By Chris Harris, Class of 2008-I



Chris Harris & William Dunn

The TGMI Alumni Association Steering Committee voted to adopt a section of road in the Nashville area as a part of the TDOT Adopt-A-Highway Program. The Adopt-A-Highway Program is a statewide volunteer-based program which allows organizations to commit to picking up litter along state highways at least four times per year. In return, the organization is provided a roadway sign with their name displayed as the volunteers who are responsible for keeping that particular 2-mile stretch of road litter-free.

On November 5, 2011 the inaugural TGMI Alumni Adopt-A-Highway Litter Pickup was held at our newly-adopted 2-mile stretch of road. Seven TGMI alumni, three family members, and Dr. Tom Kohntopp (who drove all the way from Knoxville) braved the elements to clean litter from the roadside along Franklin Road from Harding Place to Brentwood Hills Church of Christ in South Nashville. Although a dense fog threatened to postpone the event, the sun eventually shined through enough to allow the show to go on.

Armed with reflective vests and “reacher-grabbers”, the team split up and collected nine large bags of garbage and one large bag of recyclable materials.

The clean up only took about 1 ½ hours, and everyone was home in time to cheer on their favorite football team. Even Dr. Tom made it back to Knoxville before the Tennessee Volunteers hosted the MTSU Blue Raiders that afternoon. All participants were rewarded for their hard work and volunteer spirit with an official Adopt-A-



Dr. Tom Kohntopp

Highway t-shirt.

If you would like to join the TGMI Adopt-A-Highway Team for our next pickup, you're in luck! We will be holding our next pickup on Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 8am CST. For more information, visit <http://www.tdot.state.tn.us/environment/beautification/adopt-a-highway.htm> or contact Chris Harris at [Chris.Harris@tn.gov](mailto:Chris.Harris@tn.gov).



Pictured from left to right: Greg Duncan, Jon Zirkle, Cindy Johnson, William Dunn, Dillon Dunn, Patsy Grooms, Jamie Grooms, Dr. Tom Kohntopp, Margie Dunn, Ross White; not pictured: Chris Harris

# Williamson County Schools Speakers Bureau



Check out our new TGMI banner

# Class Updates

## CLASS OF 2000

[Class Reporter Chuck Holland Chuck.Holland@tn.gov](mailto:Chuck.Holland@tn.gov)

**Chuck Holland** was promoted to Budget Director of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation on April 16, 2011.

**Mark Patterson** was elected TGMI Steering Committee Member at Large for 2012-2013

## CLASS OF 2002

[Class Reporter Melvin Jones Melvin.Jones@tn.gov](mailto:Melvin.Jones@tn.gov)

A number of members of the class of 2002 attended the 2011 Fall Leadership Conference, and a great time was had by all. The conference was one of the best ever! Hopefully, this will lead to future gatherings of the class.

Class Member **Rick Brown** has retired from the state, but not our hearts. Rick was and remains a wonderful member of our class!

Christopher Michael Jones, son of **Melvin** and Darlene **Jones**, was married to the former Jonresha S. Fitts, on October 22,

2011, in Hartsville, TN. The couple will reside in Hartsville.

And remember that **Tim Beck** continues his humorous blog. The link is

[http://  
hubpages.com/  
profile/tobey100](http://hubpages.com/profile/tobey100)

Amanda Kay Shults, daughter of **Debra** and Keith **Shults**, was married to Max Donaldson on May 20, 2011 in Bloomington, IN. The couple resides in Chicago, Illinois.

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Mr. Charles H. "Chuckie" Frank-

lin, brother of **Sheryl Holtham**. Chuckie died Sept 15, 2011 in Columbia, TN of a heart attack at the age of 40. Our hearts and prayers go out to Sheryl and her family.

In the brilliance of  
the morning  
Comes the sun and  
guiding light  
In any circumstance  
enduring  
He will bring you  
through the night...  
M. Jones, Jr.

## CLASS OF 2004

[Class Reporter Patsy Grooms Patsy.Grooms@tn.gov](mailto:Patsy.Grooms@tn.gov)

Our class was represented at the Fall Conference with **Tracy White, Gail Camp, Sandra Brown Anderson, John McClurkan and Patsy Grooms**. This is a wonderful informational event each year so I encourage everyone to schedule it into your busy calendar next year. Our class was also represented by **Patsy Grooms** at the first Adopt-A-Highway trash pick day. Being a part of any community service event is fun. We will be picking up 4 times a year so please join us the next time a call goes out. Bring a family member and spread the joy.

Several of our classmates have had serious health challenges this past year but are back on the mend. Remember.... this is the class that

survived the “Eco Challenge Meets the Amazing Race” so you know we’re made of strong stuff. Just ask **Tracy White** how she recently managed to break both ankles at the same time. It takes real talent to accomplish that!

At least two classmates have changed departments and **Patsy Grooms** has submitted her paperwork to retire later this month. Anyone want to volunteer to keep up with the Best Class Ever? Join the TGMI Alumni group at LinkedIn. Let’s help Marilou reach her goal of 100 members.

**Patsy Grooms** attended the 2011 graduation program and was pleased to see that our own **Debra (Brown) Murray** was chosen by

THDA to be in TGEI. Congrats Debra! Classmate **Charles Bryson** was there to support his agency’s current class graduates. Graduation is now in the War Memorial Auditorium so there is plenty of room. Plan on attending graduation next year. When you hear the class president give their speech, it will take you back to that wonderful feeling we all had back in 2004. All alumni have a standing invitation in case you didn’t know.

*TGMI Alumni Network  
Objective #4: Edify  
and demonstrate effective communication  
in Tennessee State  
Government.*

## CLASS OF 2005

[Class Reporter Beth Pugh bpugh@thda.org](mailto:Beth.Pugh@thda.org)

**Lisa Pugh** and her husband, Glen, have two new grandbabies! Natalie Lynn Pugh was born on July 18th at Ft. Hood, Texas to son Nathan and his wife, Kelli Pugh. Anthony Glen Fontanetta was born on August 3rd in Murfreesboro to daughter **Jody** and her husband Anthony **Fonta-**

**netta**. We are enjoying babysitting and look forward to getting the two babies together for their first Christmas! Unfortunately, our son Nathan was deployed to Afghanistan in October so he won't be with us. Please keep him and all of our military folks and their families in your prayers.

**Richard Kennedy** was promoted to Associate Executive Director, Commission on Children and Youth.

**Rusty Lacy** is Chair of the Information Technology Management Association for 2012.

***TGMI Alumni  
Network Objective  
#5: Nurture and  
sustain affiliation  
and camaraderie  
between classes of  
TGMI through the  
sponsorship of the  
Alumni Network.***

## CLASS OF 2006

Class Reporter Lisa Walker [Lisa.Walker@tn.gov](mailto:Lisa.Walker@tn.gov)

**Lauren Hill** went through TGEI this year (2011) and was elected Vice President of the class. She will serve on the TGEI steering committee in 2012 and 2013.

**Billy Trout** has been promoted to Communication, Education, and Clerk Support Manager for the Tennessee Department of Revenue. He works with the media, Revenue's internet and intranet websites, plans and conducts tax seminars across the state, and manages a group of specialists that support all 95 county clerk offices on tax law and procedural issues, as well as vehicle title and registration matters.

**Debbie Dey Rivers** is now the IT Director at Revenue in addition to her election as 2012 TGMI Steering Committee Vice Chair.

**Nicole Lucas**, THDA, is expecting her second child in April 2012.

**Sherree Hall Crowder** and her husband Nathan Crowder enjoy spending time with great nieces and nephews, photos included. It's an eventful end to the year 2011 for **Lisa Walker**. Lisa and husband Patrick Smith welcomed their first grandchild on November 19,

2011. His daughter Taylor Smith gave birth to Roman Christopher Roberts weighing 9 lbs 10 oz in Corona, CA. Lisa won Ashland City Council ward one member in the election held December 3, 2011. She will be sworn in January. Her daughter, Channing Tinch, graduated with honors from MTSU December 17, 2011 and plans to pursue a Doctorate of Occupational Therapy.

First 2006 Tigmeemee tribe baby. Will Moss, son of **Tom Moss**, TGMI 2006 is now 4 years old. Born around our 2006 graduation and no longer a baby!

*TGMI Alumni  
Network Objective  
#5: Nurture and  
sustain affiliation  
and camaraderie  
between classes of  
TGMI through the  
sponsorship of the  
Alumni Network.*



Will Moss, son of **Tom Moss**



Roman Christopher Roberts, Lisa Walker's grandson



Sherree's great nieces/nephews: Aniya (middle), Aryeh (left), Aaden (right) and Amani Cherree (on floor and named after Sherree) and Douglas.

## CLASS OF 2008-I [Class Reporter April Wright April.Wright@tn.gov](mailto:April.Wright@tn.gov)

**Carolyn Head** was selected for TGEI Class of 2011 then later elected as her class Steering Committee representative.

**Julia Hamilton** was promoted to the Corporate Compliance Manager at Meharry in September 2011. She is responsible for monitoring the day to day operational activities of the Corporate Compliance Program. She will be collaborating with various members of College Management to provide continual departmental risk assessments and to serve as a contact and resource for departmental liaisons. She will be monitoring the



**Rachel Lillian Davis**

Meharry Medical Group (MMG) clinics, the dental clinics and psychiatry services for compliance risk and internal controls to prevent and detect significant instances or patterns of illegal or improper conduct.

**Philip Davis** and his wife Melissa welcomed Rachel Lillian Davis into their family September 12, 2011 at 3:05 PM weighing 5 pounds 2.5 ounces.

**Terry Malone** was accepted to LEAD TN Alliance Three.

**Mary Griffin** was appointed the State Social Security Administrator.

Hats off to our own **Susan Burdette** for being the TGI Fall Conference Coordinator!!!



**Calder Elias Morin**

**TGMI Alumni**  
**Network Objective**  
**#6: Serve as an educational resource to provide a clear understanding of Tennessee State government and its operation.**

## CLASS OF 2008-II [Class Reporter Donna Morin Donna.Morin@tn.gov](mailto:Donna.Morin@tn.gov)

**Donna** and Mark **Morin** are proud to announce the birth of Calder Elias Morin. He came into the world on Friday, December 9 at 6:01 a.m. He is 8 pounds 8 ounces and 21.25 inches of awwww-someness.

For those wondering how they chose the name Calder Elias (pronounced KAHL-der eh-LYE-us), it combines two of their passions. They are big hockey fans, and the Calder Trophy is awarded to the Rookie of the Year in the National Hockey League. Elias is the middle name of one of their heroes, Walter E. Disney. Plus they just liked the

names and how they went together with the last name.

**Gary McEntire** attended WestStar Leadership program this last year, which is sponsored by UT-Martin. The WestStar mission is to identify, encourage and equip community-minded people who want to become more involved, want to help West Tennessee become a better place, and are willing to accept assertive and dynamic leadership roles. They meet for eight two-day training sessions in a five month period.

**Tiffany Baker Cox** recently accepted a position with Tennessee State University as the Director of Equity, Diversity and Compliance.

# CLASS OF 2009

[Class Reporter Melinda Crutchfield Melinda.Chrutchfield@cot.tn.gov](mailto:Melinda.Chrutchfield@cot.tn.gov)

**Richard Presler** has taken a new position with the Department of Intellectual Disabilities. He is now the Director of the Middle Tennessee Resource Center

**Brent Rumbley** and his family spent time in Disneyworld.

**Greg Spradley's** children - Ben and Maddie. Ben made the baseball team at Wilson Central High School (he's a freshman) and Maddie made the dance team at West Wilson Middle School (she's a 6th grader).



**Melinda Crutchfield** and her husband Robert and daughter Hailey just completed a 13-mile overnight backpacking trip at Fall Creek Falls State Park.



# CLASS OF 2010

[Class Reporter Candy Williams Candace.Williams@tn.gov](mailto:Candace.Williams@tn.gov)

**Gary Ingram**, TGMI, Class of 2010 completed (TNCPE) Tennessee Center for Performance Excellence training this year, and was selected to be on the Board of Examiners for 2011. This is the Tennessee level for the National Baldrige Award. He has also been selected to attend the next session of LEAD Tn.

# Tennessee Named as Cronin Award Finalist

By Stephen Reksten, Class of 2008-I

The State of Tennessee, Department of General Services, Purchasing Division has been named as one of five finalists for the Cronin Award by the National Association of State Procurement Officials (NASPO). The George Cronin Award for Procurement Excellence is recognized as a premier achievement for innovative public procurement and pays homage to a founder and the first president of NASPO, George J. Cronin. Since 1985, the Cronin Awards have recognized ground-breaking state procurement programs and promoted the sharing of ideas between states. This is the first time that the State of Tennessee has been in the top five entries for this award.



The Department of General Services was challenged to assist the Department of Finance and Administration to reduce the top 500 reimbursements of mileage for employees that utilize their privately owned vehicles to perform their State duties. For a one year period, that total was \$4,590,807.65, an average of \$9,181.62 per employee per year. The rate of reimbursement per Finance and Administration policy is \$0.46 per mile.

Purchase of new vehicles, utilizing contracts issued by the Department of General Services, Purchasing Division would cost \$17,762.00 per vehicle for a total of \$8,881,000.00 for 2011 Ford Fusions. The cost for the State to operate these vehicles is priced at \$0.25 per mile by the Department of General Services, Motor Vehicle Management Division. This is a savings of \$0.21 per mile

The Purchasing Division looked at the lease of 500 vehicles with an estimated usage of 58,000 miles over the period of three years. The State's combined pool miles for all vehicles over that period is 29,250,000 miles. A solicitation was developed asking for pricing for the cost to lease a vehicle per month, pricing for the cost if the State were to go over the pool mileage amount per mile and a pricing for maintenance per mile.

The award winners were announced at the NASPO Annual Conference held in Austin, TX in August, 2011. Though Tennessee did not win one of the top slots, to be named a finalist is a huge honor for the State of Tennessee. The State of Oregon won the Gold and Bronze awards and the State of Idaho won the Silver Award.

## A THANKSGIVING SONG

*TGMI Alumni  
Network Objective  
#8: Teach and  
enrich  
professionalism in  
Tennessee State  
Government.*

**Thanksgiving should have its own song  
Something sweet, sung warm and low  
A song of hope and joy eternal  
That raises spirits as voices grow**

**Thanksgiving comes before Christmas  
But too often is left behind  
As the world looks to presents  
The gifts under the tree they hope to find**

**Thanksgiving is the holiday  
That says, "Thank you here today...!"  
"For bringing us to this place of virtue  
"For this feast that we now partake"**

**Christmas is deep with passion  
Gave life to every woman and man  
We sing songs on this day so holy  
The pure adoration I understand**

**Thanksgiving gives us a moment  
To remember the reasons we hold life so dear  
A day to sing of all we have come through  
While keeping our loved ones ever near**

**Sing a song this Thanksgivings  
Of Thanksgiving days now gone past  
Days that keep you focused on our journey  
With memories that will forever last**

*TGMI Alumni  
Network Objective  
#10: Coordinate the  
TGMI curriculum  
and educational  
activities with the  
Department of  
Human Resources  
and all other  
relevant State  
agencies.*

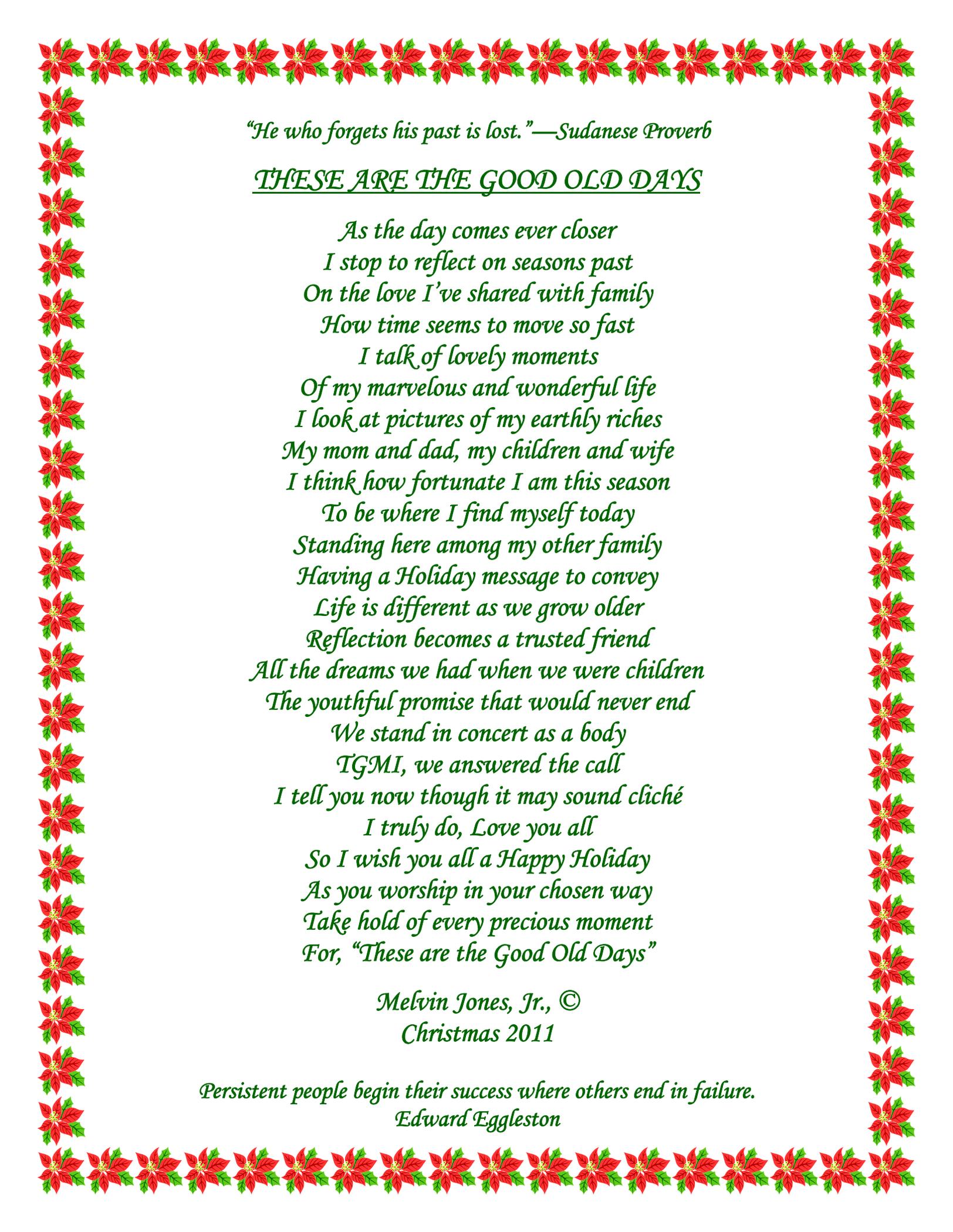
**Bow your heads and be thankful  
For the love that comes your way  
Sing of the good life you are living  
Sing a song of "Thanksgiving Day!"**

*Melvin Jones, Jr., ©  
Inspired by My Wife Darlene R. Jones  
November 4, 2009; edited November 8, 2011*

*TGMI Alumni  
Network Objective  
#7: Create  
opportunities for  
learning and  
continuous  
improvement in  
government  
operation.*

*TGMI Alumni  
Network Objective  
#9: Instruct and  
foster appreciation  
for innovative  
management  
philosophies and  
effective techniques  
of supervision.*

*TGMI Alumni  
Network Objective  
#11: Promote a  
positive image of  
state employees.*



*"He who forgets his past is lost."—Sudanese Proverb*

*THESE ARE THE GOOD OLD DAYS*

*As the day comes ever closer  
I stop to reflect on seasons past  
On the love I've shared with family  
How time seems to move so fast  
I talk of lovely moments  
Of my marvelous and wonderful life  
I look at pictures of my earthly riches  
My mom and dad, my children and wife  
I think how fortunate I am this season  
To be where I find myself today  
Standing here among my other family  
Having a Holiday message to convey  
Life is different as we grow older  
Reflection becomes a trusted friend  
All the dreams we had when we were children  
The youthful promise that would never end  
We stand in concert as a body  
TGMI, we answered the call  
I tell you now though it may sound cliché  
I truly do, Love you all  
So I wish you all a Happy Holiday  
As you worship in your chosen way  
Take hold of every precious moment  
For, "These are the Good Old Days"*

*Melvin Jones, Jr., ©  
Christmas 2011*

*Persistent people begin their success where others end in failure.  
Edward Eggleston*

# Class of 2009 Best Class EVER Food drive winners➤





Lori Cain  
TGMI 2006

Notice of Correction from Newsletter Volume 7 Issue 1  
The newsletter stated Lori Cain as a graduate of TGMI 2006 participating in Lead TN Alliance Two. That was reported in error, Lori is not a TGMI 2006 classmate.

*The Alumni are now* **Linked in**®

<http://www.linkedin.com>

Class of 2000—Class Reporter Chuck Holland  
Chuck.C.Holland@tn.gov

Class of 2001—Class Reporter Donna Duarte  
dduarte@thda.org

Class of 2002—Class Reporter Melvin Jones  
Melvin.Jones@tn.gov

Class of 2003—Class Reporter Don King  
Don.King@tn.gov

Class of 2004—Class Reporter Patsy Grooms  
Patsy.Grooms@tn.gov

Class of 2005—Class Reporter Beth Pugh  
bpugh@thda.org

Class of 2006—Class Reporter Lisa Walker  
Lisa.Walker@tn.gov

Class of 2007—Summer—Class Reporter  
Cynthia Greene Cindy.Greene@tn.gov

Class of 2007—Fall—Class Reporter  
Edwin Mimms Edwin.Mimms@tn.gov

Class of 2008—Session I—Class Reporter  
April Wright April.Wright@tn.gov

Class of 2008—Session II—Class Reporter  
Donna Morin Donna.Morin@tn.gov

Class of 2009—Class Reporter Melinda  
Crutchfield Melinda.Crutchfield@tn.gov

Class of 2010—Class Reporter Candy Wil-  
liams Candace.Williams@tn.gov

Class of 2011—Class Reporter Dawn Tay-  
lor Dawn.Taylor@tn.gov

Tennessee  
Government  
Management  
Institute



## Share your News with your Reporters

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