

JULY
2010

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 2

TGMI Newsletter



Tennessee Government Management Institute

Class of 2010



Shar Amador
Department of Human Services



Manohar Arumbur
Department of Human Services



Victor Barnes
Department of Human Services



Scott Black
Department of Human Services



Pat Cheek
Department of Revenue



Dan Danielson
Department of Agriculture



Michael Edwards
Office of the Comptroller



Jessica Gibson
Office of the Comptroller



Jeremy Gross
Department of Finance
and Administration



Chris Harmon
Department of Finance
and Administration



Linda Hartbarger
Department of Education



Jo Ann Hicks
Department of Human Services



Gary Ingram
TRICOR
State of Tennessee



Debbie Knox
Department of Finance
and Administration



Mary McIntire
Department of Transportation



Scott Medlin
Department of Transportation



Angie Midgett
Department of Transportation



Jean Mills
Department of Corrections



Daina Moran
Department of Finance
and Administration



Brenda Musgrave
Department of Human Services



Lindsay Pully
Tennessee
Housing Development Agency



Mike Rock
Department of Revenue



Tara Sanders
Department of Finance
and Administration



Diedra Sawyer
Department of Human Services



Joe Schussler
Office of the Comptroller



Darren Settles
Department of Corrections



Michelle Steward
Board of Probation
and Parole



Mark Volner
Office of the Comptroller



Penny Webb
Department of Revenue



Valarie Welch
Department of Military



Candy Williams
Tennessee Bureau of Investigation



Ritchie Worrell
Department of Human Resources

Word from the Chair

It is time for another TGMI newsletter and as usual there are some good things to report from the Chair position. First of all we have a great steering committee membership and lots of great volunteers for our subcommittees.

Mr. Vice-Chair E. Ross White has put together an impressive list of volunteers for our committees and for the Speakers Bureau with the help of you, the alumni body of course. The steering committee cannot get the great things accomplished that we plan without the participation of the alumni. If you volunteered and are feeling under used to this point in the year, fear not for we have some big events coming up like Fall Conference where your participation is greatly needed and some more speakers bureau engagements in the fall like the career days we have attended at high schools in Perry and Van Buren Counties in the spring semester. Speaking to young folks about opportunities and experiences in state government is a wonderful experience.



Jon Zirkle
Department of Transportation

Speaking of Fall Conference the date is set as Monday, September 20, 2010 so be sure to mark it on your calendars. Members of the TGMI steering committee have been working closely with the TGEI steering committee to put together a great Fall Conference. We plan to have Deputy Governor John Morgan and commissioners from various departments of state government speak on the theme of Leading Through Transition. There will be panel discussions with some commissioners and sound bites from some TGI alumni on how their experience in TGMI or TGEI helped them lead through transition and more. We also plan to have educational credits available for those professions that need them. You will not want to miss this conference.

The TGMI steering committee chair and vice chair have continued from last year the monthly meetings with TGEI leadership and Trish Pulley from DOHR. The discussion of each of the alumni organization's leadership experiences and Trish's input have been an extremely valuable tool in planning this year's events and strategies for next year.

We are also planning some more Luncheon Conferences (formerly known as brown bag lunches) for August and October and we are working with the TGEI steering committee to try to expand the annual golf scramble that will be held at Montgomery Bell State Park this year to include networking opportunities and events for non-golfers too. More info will follow on the scramble.

The steering committee is also working up a web based directory to replace the obsolete directory on the state servers. Vojin Janjic is heading up that effort and has put together a great draft system for us to review and try to break before it goes public to the alumni body sometime later this year. Of course any database system is only as good as its data. The basic information at the time of attendance of TGMI will be loaded but the alumni body will have to maintain their own info as it changes and any other info entered above and beyond the basic contact info. This system will have some features that will allow us to grow the amount information we share with our fellow alumni and this will increase our networking opportunities in the future both at work and potentially outside as well such as shared hobbies and common interests.

Members of the steering committee were able to attend lunch with the 2010 class members at Montgomery Bell State Park on Tuesday of their second week and participated in the second annual fajita cookout on Wednesday evening. A good time was had by all and we have a great class graduating assimilating into the alumni organization. Phyllis Hodges was able to attend the class meetings on Thursday afternoon and help them with class elections. Thanks to all who participated in this important TGMI week.

Of course all is not always rosy and the less cheery side of life brought us the floods of May 1 and 2 this year. In addition to damage to state and local infrastructure producing more work for some of us and expense for some departments, many folks including some TGMI alumni more importantly experienced flooding in their homes in localities that saw unprecedented flooding in the Nashville area and west Tennessee. If you have class mates that were impacted personally by the floods and would like to organize a class activity to help them out, feel free to share it with the steering committee and word can be spread to the entire alumni body for additional help from volunteers with that activity. Please make sure the class mate is willing and open to alumni help before contacting the steering committee for additional volunteers. We realize that there is a lull in activity between initial cleanup which is now complete in many cases and the rebuilding phase, so that insurance and FEMA funds can be obtained and put to proper use in the rebuilding effort. Please know that our thoughts and prayers for a speedy and complete flood recovery are with those affected.

The steering committee is hoping to finish out the year strong with some great events. Thanks for your help. Be sure to check out our TGMI website on the DOHR website for updates on events to come.

2010 Steering Committee

2010 Steering Committee

Chairperson
Jon Zirkle
Class of 2003

Vice Chairperson
E. Ross White
Class of 2006

Past Chairperson
Lauren Hill
Class of 2006

2009 Class Member
Julie Lamb
Mehran Mostajir

2008 Class Members
Carolyn Head Estep
Vojin Janjic

At Large Members
Chris Harris
Class of 2008 Session I
Georganne Martin
Class of 2008 Session II
Phyllis Hodges
Class of 2008 Session II
Marilou Cook
Class of 2007

EX-Officio Member
Trish Pulley
Class of 2008 Session I

Newsletter Design
April Wright
Class of 2008 Session I



Jon Zirkle
Department of
Transportation



E. Ross White
Commerce & Insurance



Lauren Hill
Department of
Environment &
Conservation



Julie Lamb
Department of
Transportation



Mehran Mostajir
TRICOR



Carolyn Head Estep
TN Housing Devel-
opment Agency



Vojin Janjic
Department of
Environment &
Conservation



Chris Harris
Department of
Transportation



Georganne Martin
Department of Finance
&
Administration



Phyllis Hodges
Department of
Education



Marilou Cook
Department of Finance
& Administration



Trish Pulley
Department of
Human Resources

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

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



Dates to Remember

TGI Fall Conference—September 20, 2010,
TN Room William R Snodgrass Building

TGMI Holiday Breakfast and Annual
Meeting—December 3, 2010, Ellington Ag-
ricultural Center

To volunteer to work these events contact
Marilou Cook or Phyllis Hodges.

Class of 2010

The first glimpse of our classmates, other TGMI alumni and Dr. Tom was at orientation on April 22nd. It was a very polite affair with introductions and discussions about things such as what we each do in our jobs with the State. I'm sure I'm not the only one who walked away wondering if I was going to find a way to connect with my classmates other than the fact that we all work for the State....and if we were going to end up acting as strangely as... "The Kattfish Kilaz"!!

2010 Class Officers



Victor Barnes
Department of Human Services

Class President



Debbie Knox
Department of Finance
and Administration

Steering Committee
Member



Candy Williams
Tennessee Bureau of Investigation

Class Reporter



Mike Rock
Department of Revenue

Social Director

When the time to pack and make our way to Knoxville for our first week arrived, so did the Nashville Flood of 2010. Despite the flood waters, twenty-three of us made the trek to Knoxville on Sunday, May 2nd. For two of our classmates, it took sheer determination to get there that first night, with the trip taking them over twice as long as it normally did as a result of their having to zigzag across the State to avoid flooded roads. For one, it was a three day long process with her spending two nights at Montgomery Bell State Park waiting for I-40 to open (she was just previewing the accommodations for our second week!!!).

Once together, we found that the majority of us had one very significant way to connect – our experiences with the flooding. It united us immediately as we shared our personal stories and what we were each learning about what was going on back home with our families, friends and co-workers. Nearly all of us had been impacted by the flood. But yet for a brief time, we were far removed from what was happening to our work places, homes, neighborhoods, and community...just enough removed to learn a lot about ourselves.

Our first week of TGMI was almost entirely introspective. We took a 360 degree assessment, Gallup's Strengths-based Leadership assessment, and a Behavioral-Style Analysis. The speakers for Week 1 who led us through these self-discovery exercises included Dr. Jerri (Andria) Yates, Dr. Megan Moe, Dr. Christie Kleinmann, and Dr. Mary Fink. Mr. Macel Ely led us through a thought-provoking discussion of generational differences in the workplace. Week 1 also included an Outdoor Challenge for the class.

Before leaving Knoxville, we had decided that we needed a logo design that represented our class's unique TGMI experience. A draft of the logo was completed before we parted ways, and the design was finalized and T-shirts produced in time for our second week at Montgomery Bell State Park (see picture at right).

Our second week at Montgomery Bell State Park was during the hottest weather to date in 2010 (we've got this thing with weather extremes it seems!). Our

experience was more focused on refining leadership skills. Dr. David Kolzow spoke to us about leading from the middle, and Ms. Laura Miller spent a day with us discussing the business of government. We
-Continued on Page 13



Class of 2010 Pictures



Class Updates

Please be sure to keep your Class Reporter notified of changes in your life that you want to share with others. These changes can be promotions, change in departments, awards, new babies or grandbabies, loved ones overseas, etc. Next to each class will be the Class Reporters name and their email addresses. When they send out a request for information for the newsletter, please respond quickly. We want to hear from you!

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

Steve Hawkins reports that the Department of Labor and Workforce Development raised over \$25,000 for the flood relief effort.

Marlene Alvarez was flooded out in River Plantation. She has a condo in Green Hills and is receiving help from family, friends and her church.

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

On May 1, 2010, Bobby Wilson became the new Fisheries Chief for TWRA. Bobby wants everyone to know that he did survive the flooding in Bellevue, but both his mother and brother had flood damage.

Margie Dunn says “Hi” from her position as the Director of Human Resources at MTMHI. Her son Dillon is now 16 and has recently gotten his driver’s license. After nine years, the youngsters in our lives are growing up!

Pete Napatalung is Fiscal Director at the Attorney General’s office. Pete’s daughters are in college and the oldest one is a third year medical student at the University of Memphis. Pete is still stays active and misses his TGMl classmates.

Nancy Sartor retired from TDOT on June 30, 2010. She will stay busy by working with a design consultant two days a week and continue her fiction writing on the side. You can reach Nancy at mail@nancysartor.com. We hope to see her at Fall Conference.

Donna Duarte graduated from the 2009 TGEI class in December. She remarks that her TGEI class will always be remembered as the abbreviated version, as they met for two weeks not the usual three.

Class of 2002—Class Reporter Mike Travis Mike.Travis@tn.gov

In May 2010, Melvin Jones, Jr. Director of Internal Audit & Consulting Services for the Department of Revenue, was sworn in as the President of the Nashville Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants for the 2010-11 chapter Year. He succeeded TGEI graduate Karen Hale.

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

TDOT’s Jon Zirkle, and his wife, Molly, welcomed their new addition to the family, Kaitlin Avery Zirkle on January 27, 2010. Kaitlin weighed 8 lbs even and was 20 inches long. All the Zirkles are doing well. Molly, who worked previously at CMT as a production accountant is now enjoying her promotion to the position of stay at home mom.

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

No updates this time.

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

No updates this time.

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

Billy Trout’s son, Mark Trout, graduated from Blackman High School in Murfreesboro in May. Mark currently operates his own lawncare and landscaping business and will also attend the Tennessee



Kaitlin Avery, Jon Zirkle’s daughter

Class Updates

Technology Center in Nashville this fall to become certified in construction trades.

Phil Smith is gonna be a "Pops" this December. His oldest son Justin and his wife Holly are expecting our first grandchild on Christmas day.

Tom Moss' son Will is now 3. He is a very bright, happy, active little boy and too smart for his parents!



Will, Tom Moss' son on the baseball diamond!!

Nicole Lucas was appointed Director of Information Technology for THDA on March 1st. She is also a member of the TGMI Speaker's Bureau.

In September of 2007, John Hennessey resigned from DHS and accepted a position as Operations Manager with KePRO, a company which provides a variety of services in support of TennCare's medical services appeals process. In September of 2009, his Director was internally promoted to work on another contract within the company, and John was promoted to Director on the TennCare contract.

E. Ross White turned the big 56 in June. His daughter Emily starts her third year this Fall at the University of Memphis, majoring in Education, and son, Charlie 9 will start 4th Grade at St. Ann School in Nashville. Along with wife Tracy, his entire family enjoyed a beautiful week, the 1st week of June together in Watercolor Beach, Fla.

Bruce Anderson will retire from state service effective September 1 with 35 years of service in August. From Bruce: I want to say that the associations that I have had with the TGMI alumni, not only in our class but others that I have met have been exceptionally good ones. I think the TGI program is the best one in state government. I wish everybody well in what is still shaping up to be a pretty tough future, at least in the short term, with state government. If I can help any of you in any way, please feel free to let me know. Good Luck Everybody!

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

No updates this time.

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

Congratulations to Meredith Freeman Middlebrooks on the arrival of her baby Eliza Helen Middlebrooks, on March 30, 2010. She was 8 lbs 7 oz. She is the sweetest, chubbiest, and cutest baby ever!

Gary Hotvedt has moved from the TRA to Assistant Treasurer for Legal, Compliance and Audit with the Department of Treasury.

Penny Dahl has received the Commissioners Citation Award from the Social Security Administration for performance and achievements. In September of this year Penny will take over as President of the local state chapter of Tennessee Association of Disability Examiners. This is a professional organization that works closely with Social Security and the legislative body to improving the laws for Disability and providing new and upcoming information and training about the Disability program to their staff. They also hold several events to help charities in our state. The local state chapter of Tennessee Association of Disability Examiners is currently having on-going events for fifteen of their employees who were affected (10 of whom lost everything) during the historic Nashville flood.

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

Al Pond's Granddaughter, Kelsie Payne, graduated with honors from White House High School this year. She will sign a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at Maryville College. Her plans at this time are to major in communications and drama. She is quite the little actress. Also, Al's

Class Updates

daughter is expecting her second child, a girl, in October. Mother and daughter are progressing nicely. The little girl will be his **sixth** grand child.



Trish Pulley

Cindy Patton's son, John, graduated from Christian Brothers High School and is going to attend the University of Memphis. He received the HOPE Scholarship. Cindy and her husband, Ron, celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary May 24th and they built a new home on Moon Lake in Mississippi.

Trish Pulley was appointed Director, Organizational Development, for the Department of Human Resources, effective May 2, 2010. In her new position, Trish will be responsible for directing state-wide talent development strategies and organizational development initiatives, meeting the financial responsibilities of a fee-for-service division, and will direct the daily activities of the SLS division.

April Wright's daughter Elizabeth performed in her second dance recital on June 25, 2010. This is her second year to be the youngest student at Julie's School of Dance. She performed two dances in the recital, one ballet and one tap dance. This formal photograph is of her class of 3 year olds in their tap dance outfit and a single photo of her in her ballet outfit.



Joy Stoots and her grandson Teddy

Joy Stoots welcomed her first grandchild, John Theodore "Teddy" Molettiere. He was born on February 3, 2010 at 9:22 AM EST, at the Piedmont Fayetteville Hospital in Fayetteville, GA. Teddy weighed 8 lbs, 12 ozs, and was 22 inches long - a tall little fellow!



Elizabeth, April Wright's daughter



Michelle Waldrep's house on May 3

Carolyn Head-Estep has her first great nephew: Jeffrey Phillip Hunter Crabtree – born Palm Sunday (March 28th) and shown one week later in his Easter basket.



Carolyn Head-Estep's great nephew, Jeffrey Phillip

Michelle Waldrep would like to thank everyone for their support and assistance post flood. She said our help to her has been a huge blessing!

James Roberson has been appointed as Workforce Development Program Director with the Workforce Development Division, effective May 16, 2010. James holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Lambuth (College) University and has worked in the department for over 8 years. Prior to working for the state, he was a youth minister in the United Methodist Church and he began his work in WIA with Local Workforce Investment Area 11. During his tenure with the department, James has served as a statewide program manager, Director of Planning and Policy, and WIA Fiscal Liaison. These experiences have allowed him to establish valuable skills in both the program and fiscal aspects of the Workforce Investment Act. In his new position, James' responsibilities will include providing direction for WIA technical assistance, monitoring/corrective action, managing WIA funding, and set up of contracts with local agencies.



James Roberson

Class Updates

Trish Pulley's father, George Bass, received the Social Holiness Award—George Bass spent more than thirty years training and developing youth and young adults through the Mountain T.O.P. ministry which sensitized these church members to the social, spiritual, economic, emotional, and relational needs of the weak, the least, the last, and the lost of the Cumberland Mountains. Youth and adults on work teams through Mountain T.O.P. learned the benefits of working together as a team, of meeting the needs of persons who are less fortunate, and of relating to people who simply needed a listening ear or a simple touch.

Bass did this for more than thirty years. It began when George was working with the youth at Blakemore United Methodist Church in Nashville. He took his youth to a work camp at Hinton Rural Life Center. He felt the nudge of God which led to the question, "Shouldn't our Tennessee Annual Conference provide ministry other than simply a spiritual fun camp at Beersheba Springs Assembly? Should we help young people realize the needs of others as well as meet the needs of others?" Thus, George began to develop the Mountain T.O.P. (Tennessee Outreach Project) ministry.

Immediately, the vision ignited the enthusiasm of the youth of not only our Tennessee Conference, but the interest of youth throughout the United States as well as with youth from all other denominations. It became obvious that this ministry was greater than what our Tennessee Conference Youth Council could provide. It needed its own board of directors and trained leaders.

The first Mountain T.O.P. camp was in 1974 at Beersheba Springs United Methodist Assembly. Through the years, George has led this ministry that hired, trained and developed more than 1,050 young adults as summer staff. More than an estimated 15,000 to 20,000 youth and adults from local churches in 28 states participated in the intensive weeklong work camp that had a major spiritual emphasis. They even added a day camp for the children of the Cumberland Mountains who had nothing to do in the summer.

The Rev. Skip Armistead who nominated George Bass for the Richard Allison Social Holiness Award shared his own personal experiences at Mt. T.O.P. "Having been an active participant with Mt. T.O.P. through the years, I got to see lives changed. I saw two elderly widows' faces light up with new hope when our work team cleared their orchard, an orchard these widows hasn't seen since they were children. I saw men with green teeth and no teeth moved to tears because some youth cared to take time to listen to them. I've seen arrogant spoiled youth from wealthy homes humbled as a result of their contact with people of an entirely different culture. I've seen youth who felt like they were nothing and of no value to anyone become aware that they were 'somebody' when they helped others.

The Rev. Skip Armistead who nominated George Bass for the Richard Allison Social Holiness Award shared his own personal experiences at Mt. T.O.P. "Having been an active participant with Mt. T.O.P. through the years, I got to see lives changed. I saw two elderly widows' faces light up with new hope when our work

team cleared their orchard, an orchard these widows hasn't seen since they were children. I saw men with green teeth and no teeth moved to tears because some youth cared to take time to listen to them. I've seen arrogant spoiled youth from wealthy homes humbled as a result of their contact with people of an entirely different culture. I've seen youth who felt like they were nothing and of no value to anyone become aware that they were 'somebody' when they helped others. I've seen the morale of Grundy County change for the better and the people of Grundy County say it was because of the Mountain T.O.P. ministry.

I've also seen the lives of many youth and young adults

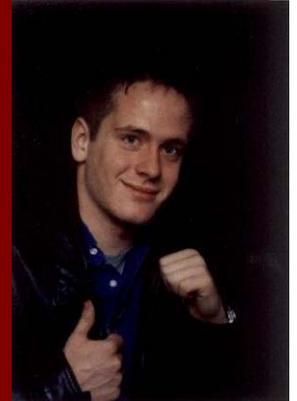


Family, friends, and fellow church members gathered to celebrate the honor received by George Bass. Many in the group were in one of the original Mt. TOP volunteer teams.

Class Updates

change in their attitudes towards the weak, the least, the last, and the lost as a result of participating in Mountain T.O.P. – and many have returned home to provide similar ministries in their own community. Many learned to appreciate the difference in cultures. Many have even entered the ministry. George Bass' work facilitated this social transformation that continues to take place on the Cumberland Mountains even now that he is retired.”

Chris Gahan, son of Stephen Reksten, has been accepted to the United States Air Force's Officer Candidate School. Chris is in the delayed entry program, so he will not be leaving for the Air Force until 2011. Chris was accepted to become a Navigator, one of 80 out of over 400 applications. Chris is a 2009 graduate of Tennessee Technology University where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering. He is currently employed by ATA as a contract employee at Arnold Air Force Base at Tullahoma, TN.



Chris Gahan, Stephen Reksten's son

Class of 2008—Session II—Class Reporter Donna Morin Donna.Morin@tn.gov
Randy Carroll will be attending TGEI this fall. He is also relocating to Murfreesboro.

Steve Goins was recognized by the Dry Cleaner Environmental Response Board for his service as the Board's Technical Secretary. His youngest daughter, Emily, was named Outstanding Junior Math Major at Samford University in Birmingham, AL. This honor awards additional scholarship money, which makes her parents proud and happy.

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

Richard Presler transferred from the Department of Military to the Tennessee Commission on Aging. He is currently the Fiscal Director for the Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability.

Julie Lamb just transferred within the Tennessee Department of Transportation. She is currently with TDOT's Department of Human Resources in the role of Special Projects.

Suzanne Shatila and her family are moving to Minneapolis, MN. Her husband finished graduate school at Vanderbilt and has accepted a position with a company in Minneapolis.

Eric Harkness has just been promoted within the Department of Finance and Administration from the Division of Health Planning to the Office of eHealth Initiatives. He is currently the Project Manager for eHealth.



Tresa Jones, Benefits Manager, Finance and Administration spent some time in Virginia and Washington D.C. over the Memorial Day holiday. Please enjoy the pictures she

wanted to share with us.

Tresa's pictures from Washington DC trip



Vivian, Victor Barnes' daughter

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

The Monday after week two our President, Victor Barnes welcomed a new addition to his family on June 28, 2010. Sweet Vivian Camille Barnes was born at 1:45 pm weighing 8 lbs, 2 oz.

2010 Habitat for Humanity Community Service Project Summary

By Jon Zirkle, Class of 2003



House at start of day

The sixth annual Habitat for Humanity community service project was held March 20, 2010 at the Timberwood subdivision north of Nashville and was a big success as expected. The project was back on schedule of the traditional spring build after last year's adjustment to the fall.

I contacted the Nashville Area Habitat for Humanity in late January and worked with Matt Hawkins to schedule a date and type of project to set up for the group. They always have volunteer opportunities throughout the year at the Habitat Store on 8th Ave. and on Division Street where small groups of three or four can come in on a Saturday and provide customer service, stocking, or other tasks needed on that particular day and individuals can contact them and be placed with a build crew or another sponsoring organization on another build day. The Habitat Store is still a good opportunity if anyone would like to volunteer to help out in a different way from the physical labor of building a house.

This year we participated in day five of the eight days of construction on houses for new owners that we met on site. Their names are Sunethra Malkanthi and LaTonya Kelly and both families are very excited to get into their new houses. Habitat has contractors on site supervising the build and providing tools and they work rain or shine. They grouped us again this year with Habitat Homestore sponsored houses and we partnered with The Church at Hope Park, Music City Center for Spiritual Living, and the Belmont chapter of ATO for the day. Due to some rain expected the following day, the combined groups did lots of landscaping including sod installation, installing mailbox posts, some installation of wood siding and cleaning inside and out so the next day's crews could work inside the houses.



Lauren Hill and framing of new house down the street

The 8 volunteers that participated on the build day included personnel from seven departments of state government and consisted of seven TGMI alumni. The other volunteer was a friend of TGMI.

The project was a success. We started out bright and early at 7 AM. Once everyone got on task of landscaping and installing sod, both houses were completed before the end of the day. The mailbox posts were installed at several houses on the street and some installation of siding and cleaning up in around the two houses we were assigned to was completed to set the stage for the next day's crews to work inside and avoid the forecasted rain. Great teamwork! We again had a great day to work with. It was a dry, cool, breezy day. The best part is that by the end of the day of hard work you feel like you have made friends with your fellow TGMI alumni, the site supervisors, and the folks you are grouped with and you almost hate to see the day end even though you are very tired.

Thanks to all those that participate in our Habitat for Humanity projects and all those that are there in spirit as well. Matt and the supervisors on site were great to work with and provide a great service for the community.

I hope you all had a rewarding experience and look forward to doing it again next year.

If you would like to set up a time for a small group to volunteer on a build or at the Habitat stores or tutoring prospective home owners, contact Jon Zirkle at TDOT or Mr. Matt Hawkins at 254-4663 ext 238.



Group shot with Owners



Sod Line

Volunteer List:
Jon Zirkle (2003)
Cindy Johnson (2009)
Lauren Hill (2006)
Jane Polansky
Phyllis Hodges (2008-2)
John Struyk (2003)
Cassandra Thompson (2007-S)
Shaylondia Simmons (2007-F)



John Struyk & Phyllis Hodges working the sod line



Group shot of TGMI

2010 Speakers Bureau Engagements

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.



Speakers Bureau Engagement at Van Buren County High School—Jon Zirkle and Marilou Cook



Speakers Bureau Engagement at Van Buren County High School—Linda Cone



Speakers Bureau Engagement at Van Buren County High School—Marilou Cook, Georganne Martin, Linda Cone, Ross White, Jon Zirkle and Melinda Crutchfield



Speakers Bureau Engagement at Van Buren County High School—Jon Zirkle



Speakers Bureau Engagement at Van Buren County High School



Speakers Bureau Engagement at Perry County High School—Trooper is not TGMI



Speakers Bureau Engagement at Perry County High School—Julie Lamb



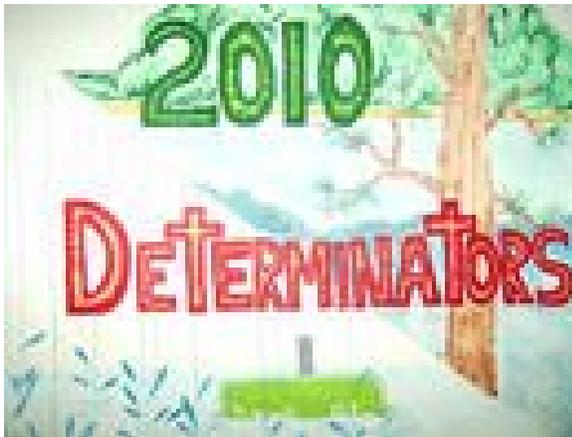
Speakers Bureau Engagement at Perry County High School—Marilou Cook

Class of 2010 continued

were also blessed to spend a day with Ms. Mimi Bliss learning how to make effective presentations. Eric Benson thoroughly entertained and inspired us to “Stress-Less”. And last but not least, Dr. Deborah Tobey wrapped up the entire two weeks for us by leading us through a discussion on building our legacy of leadership.

In summary, we learned:

- That although we all are good leaders, we cannot always lead; sometimes we will have to follow.
- That we must lead with our strength, and bring in others around us to fill in the areas where we lack strengths.
- That we shouldn't bury our lead!!
- That it takes all types to make an effective and efficient team.
- That we are in 100% control of our stress level.
- That we should Go Big or Go Home!!



Above all else, we learned that we are strong and we will always persevere. As our logo proudly states, “We Won't Be Stopped”, for we are....”The Determinators!”

Life is a Highway, and we're gonna ride it ALL NIGHT LONG!!!



Class Officers: Mike Rock, Debbie Knox, Victor Barnes, Candy Williams

More Class of 2010 Pictures



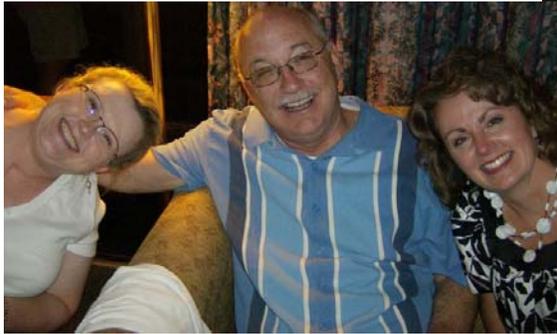
Candy & JoAnn



Brenda & Scott



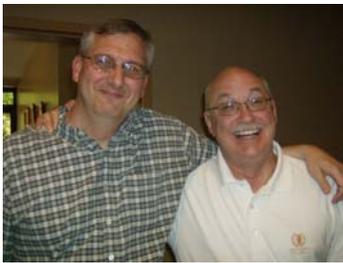
Daina Deidre Paddleboat



JoAnn, Richie & Candy



Challenge Day Rope Puzzle



Mark & Ritchie



Challenge Day Daina Jumping



Challenge Day, Victor Climbing



Challenge Day Group



Penny, Jean, Valarie & Scott



Penny & Mike



TGMI Alumni Network

The Tennessee Government Management Institute (TGMI) Alumni Network is an organization of graduates from TGMI.

The TGMI Alumni Network attempts to accomplish these goals each year through the actions of the alumni elected Steering Committee and its appointed Subcommittees.

The Steering Committee engages in monthly meetings to coordinate the upcoming events and makes sure the year's goals are being met and any problems are solved.

Each year the Steering Committee and its Subcommittees sponsor events such as, but not limited to a Fall Conference, Holiday Breakfast, Brown Bag lunch and learn meetings, Leadership Development, various community service events, and produces an alumni newsletter to keep alumni connected.

TGMI Alumni Network Objectives:

- A. Promote the interest in and support of TGMI.
- B. Provide a forum for the exchange of ideas among Tennessee Government Managers and Executives.
- C. Encourage networking and effective partnerships within Tennessee State Government.
- D. Edify and demonstrate effective communication in Tennessee State Government.
- E. Nurture and sustain affiliation and camaraderie between classes of TGMI through the sponsorship of the Alumni Network.
- F. Serve as an educational resource to provide a clear understanding of Tennessee State government and its operation.
- G. Create opportunities for learning and continuous improvement in government operation.
- H. Teach and enrich professionalism in Tennessee State government.
- I. Instruct and foster appreciation for innovative management philosophies and effective techniques of supervision.
- J. Coordinate the TGMI curriculum and educational activities with the Department of Human Resources and all other relevant State agencies.
- K. Promote a positive image of state employees.

TGMI alumni make a difference within State Government!

