

TGMI Newsletter



Tennessee Government Management Institute

2009 Class



John Allen
TN Housing Development Agency



Adele Anderson
Administrative Office of the Courts



Shannon Barnhill
Bureau of TennCare



Jimmy Biens
TRICOR



Kenneth Blue Sr.
Tennessee Bureau of Investigation



Patty Burton
Administrative Office of the Courts



Nicole Cobb
Department of Education



Gwendolyn Coffey
TN Housing Development Agency



Sharon Crawford
Department of Human Services



Melinda Crutchfield
Comptroller of the Treasury



Tremecca Doss
Department of Transportation



Anneita Dunbar
Department of Human Services



Vicky Goodin
Department of General Services



Ken Hannifin
Department of Human Services



Eric Harkness
Department of Finance & Administration



Christy Hollingsworth
TN Housing Development Agency



Cindy Johnson
Department of Safety



Tresa Jones
Department of Finance & Administration



Julie Lamb
Department of Transportation



Kimberly Mayo
Department of Human Services



Mehran Mostajir
TRICOR



Rick Newton
Department of Finance & Administration



Patrick Parker
Department of Environment & Conservation



Richard Presler
Department of Military



Jason Romow
TN Housing Development Agency



Brent Rumbley
Comptroller of the Treasury



Johnetta Scales
Department of Revenue



Suzanne Shatila
Department of Human Services



Rew Sloan
Bureau of TennCare



Gary Smith
Department of Human Services



Greg Spradley
Department of Finance & Administration



Mark Spruiell
Department of Human Services



Darlene Stringfellow
Department of Human Services



Sandy Strickland
Department of Finance & Administration



Joe Sweat
Department of Transportation



Willie Talley
Department of Military



Chris Yeiser
Department of Finance & Administration

Word from the Chair



2009 Steering Committee

Chairperson

Lauren Hill
Class of 2006

Vice Chairperson

Jon Zirkle
Class of 2003

Past Chairperson

Greg Duncan
Class of 2001

2008 Class Members

Carolyn Head Estep
Vojin Janjic

2007 Class Members

Linda Cone
Melisa Hucks

At Large Members

Marilou Cook
Class of 2007 Fall
Greg Wilson
Class of 2005

EX-Officio Member

Trish Pulley
Class of 2008 Session I

Newsletter Design

April Wright
Class of 2008 Session I

Another year comes to a close and we approach it with gratitude for the blessings of the past year and hope for the future. I certainly do. As an employee of the state it has been challenging: Budget issues and Edison. Frequently it seems like that is all we ever hear or deal with any more.

As Chair of the TGMI Alumni Steering Committee I have been blessed to be a member of a team of individuals committed to TGMI, and Tennessee, focused on making our futures better in spite of circumstances.

The year began with doubts as to whether we would be able to have the TGMI and TGEI leadership sessions because of budget issues.

Commissioner Storey of DoHR made it a personal commitment to see that it happened-meeting and talking with individual commissioners and department heads to gain commitment for participants to the programs, which they did, so the TGI experience occurred.

There were modifications with respect to the budget issues-all 4 weeks were housed on our state parks-TGMI had only one class and TGEI was reduced to two weeks instead of three-but they both happened and we have 38 newly graduated alumni into the TGMI organization!

The steering committee made a commitment to both keep our alumni engaged and ensure that the new class would know that we have a vibrant organization and network that supports them and will welcome them. With the leadership of our Committee Chairmen and members we've done quite a bit this year.

We held a very successful "Meet the TGMI class of 2009" luncheon before they began their sessions to introduce them to the alumni and answer any questions about the TGMI experience.

At their Montgomery Bell session the Steering Committee provided a cook out for the class (the Fajitas were awesome!!) and at Pickwick Landing with the assistance of the park we provided an evening pontoon boat ride on Pickwick Lake.

With the delay of our Fall Conference the Steering Committee has sponsored two Fall lunch time learning seminars featuring Dr Michael McIntyre from the Professional MBA program at UT (and former facilitator of TGMI and TGEI classes) to continue our commitment to provide learning opportunities. They will continue to happen every six to eight weeks with a variety of speakers and topics-watch for them!

We have participated in 3 community service projects-two with Nashville zoo, one with Habitat for Humanity and had the weather cooperated we would have completed the annual clean up of the Harpeth River.

Although TGEI is the lead organization for the Fall Conference this year, because of several unusual circumstances it had to be delayed. However we have committed to work side by side with them to make it happen. It will be termed the Annual Conference. This year it was delayed because of the TGMI and TGEI sessions happening so late. But it WILL happen-this Spring-and it will again be outstanding!

The administration of the TGI programs was restructured from DoHR to the UT Jimmy Naifeh Center for Leadership. TGMI and TGEI leadership have been jointly engaged in monthly meetings with Director Karen Eddy and Assistant Director Trish Pulley of Strategic Learning Solutions in DoHR working to determine strategy for our Alumni Organizations in the future as well as with the UT Center in providing input regarding future TGI sessions.

And this month we put on the Holiday Breakfast and welcomed the new class into our Alumni organization at their Graduation ceremony! By any measure I'd say we've had a challenging and busy year!

I cannot express the honor it has been to Chair the Steering Committee-or how excited I am about our future! I am grateful for having gone through the TGMI Leadership program, to have been elected Class President of... of course I have to say it! "The Best Class EVER!!" and to have had the opportunity to serve on the steering committee as both a member and as Chair. I am far richer for all of it. Thanks to each of you for your guidance and support.

Please.... Stay positive. Stay involved. And be well.

Steering Committee Election Results

Announced at the Holiday Breakfast

By Lauren Hill

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



Jon Zirkle
Department of
Transportation

December 3rd TGMI held their annual Holiday Breakfast with a record setting atten-

dance of 108 participants!! The Ed Jones Hall at Ellington was beautifully decorated by the Events Committee (headed by Lisa Pugh) with the decorations provided by Linda Cone. We never knew someone could get so many decorations in the

back of a single van! They were beautiful –thank you Linda! Along with our TGMI alumni, Commissioner Deborah Storey of DoHR and her staff, and Dr Tom Kohntopp from the UT Jimmy



E. Ross White
Commerce & Insurance

Naifeh Center for Leadership were also there. It was a wonderful time to reconnect with classmates and get the TGMI network flowing! Breakfast was once again provided by Chef Christopher and Carolyn Estep lead a brief musical sing along to get everyone into the Holiday spirit!



Trish Pulley
Department of
Human Resources



Lauren Hill
Department of
Environment &
Conservation



Marilou Cook
Department of Finance
& Administration



Chris Harris
Department of
Transportation



Georganne Martin
Department of
Finance &
Administration



Julie Lamb
Department of
Transportation



Phyllis Hodges
Department of
Education



Mehran Mostajir
TRICOR



Carolyn Head Estep
TN Housing Development Agency



Vojin Janjic
Department of
Environment &
Conservation

TGMI Committees – 2010

The TGMI Steering Committee invites you to volunteer on a subcommittee to help us put on the events that you, the alumni, enjoy each year. The current list of committees and responsibilities follows.

Participating on a committee helps provide the connection to the alumni that our busy schedules don't always allow for in other ways. Helping to coordinate events like the Fall Conference and Holiday Breakfast is hard work but is also fun and a great way to connect with your class and alumni from other classes and meet new folks from all the different departments of state government. Even if you are not available to participate in a particular event such as the Community Service projects, your help coordinating events and the diversity and creativity in planning them is still valuable.

Remember the Steering Committee can't do it without you. If you would like to help out on a committee, please notify:

E. Ross White, Asst. Director of Consumer Affairs, Commerce & Insurance,
Office 615-741-4737, Ross.White@tn.gov

Available committees you can volunteer to be on:

Charter Committee—Duties include responsibilities of past By-Laws and Nomination Committees

Education and Leadership Development Committee—Duties include Annual Conference coordination and speakers bureau

Communications Committee—Duties include website management and newsletter development

Events Committee—Duties include hospitality and orientation committees, coordinating brown bag lunches, holiday breakfast and orientation

Community Services Committee—Duties include proposing and implementing alumni community service projects



Class of 2009 Meet and Greet Pictures

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.



Class of 2009

2009 Class Officers



Mehran Mostajir
TRICOR
Class President



Julie Lamb
Department of Transportation
Steering Committee
Member



Melinda Crutchfield
Comptroller of the Treasury
Class Reporter



Sandy Strickland
Finance and Administration
Social Director

A message from the class of 2009 president, steering committee member, class reporter, and social director

Despite the hard economic conditions our great state is currently undergoing, we were extremely proud and honored that Commissioner Deborah Story and the folks at the Jimmy Naifeh Center for Effective Leadership, Dr. Tom Kohntopp and Dr. Mary Jenkins, were able to make the TGMI class of 2009 a reality. We were extremely fortunate to have been able to spend both weeks at two of our wonderful state parks. We feel that we can speak for all of our classmates when we say that we truly enjoyed our visits at two of the most beautiful parks our great state has to offer. We greatly appreciate all the catfish that gave up their lives to make sure we all got our fair share and fill of catfish from the restaurant buffets. As one of our classmates put it “we kilt a lot of catfish.” Many great friendships were forged as we began our journey to become the next state leaders. The stories that were shared will stay with us throughout our careers and our lifetime.

One common thought we all shared was the fact that we needed a special name for our class. Yes, we know that “The Best Class Ever” is universal, but we felt that we needed that little extra that would make us stand out above the rest. Although we are sure that each and every class is “The Best Class Ever” everyone can agree that no other class can compete with “The Katfish Kilaz.”



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

Floyd Hall's new book, (So You Want To Be A Gourmet) is completed and available at www.Xlibris.com/FloydJ.Hall.html (1-888-795-4274 ext 7876). It's also available at Amazon.com, and Barnesandnoble.com

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

No updates this time.

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

Debbie Reeves is waiting with great anticipation for the arrival of her first granddaughter Josie Elise Jones who is suppose to arrive somewhere around December 29th. Debbie's daughter Monica is the expectant mother and I'm sure that they will all have a very Merry Christmas ... Congratulations Debbie.

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

Beth Pendergrass, Legislative Audit Manager, Division of Audits, was recently named Treasurer of Hope Springs International, a faith-based charity working in Nigeria and Chad to teach sustainable agriculture and food preservation techniques. In addition, although it is not the charity's primary purpose, Hope Springs recently funded a mission into Chad to repair 19 wells that were previously unusable. Lack of clean drinking water had led to hundreds of deaths from cholera and dysentery. For more information, follow Hope Springs on Facebook. Beth also continues as Cubmaster of Pack 74 and as the Cherokee District Camp Director.

Jon Zirkle, Department of Transportation, reports that he and Molly, his wife of two years, are expecting a baby girl near the end of January. The Zirkle family resides in Franklin.

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.

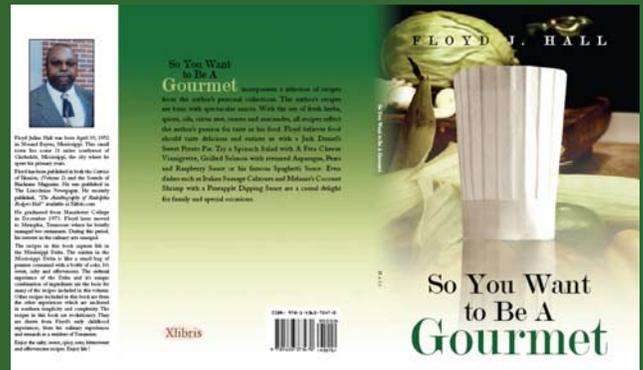
Class of 2006—Class Reporter Lisa Walker Lisa.Walker@tn.gov

Tom Moss is acting director for the Division of Water Supply in TDEC since July 1, 2009.

E. Ross White was elected Vice-Chair of the TGMI Steering Committee December 3, 2009.

Lisa Walker and Patrick Smith were married by Governor Phil Bredesen on November 20, 2009.

Congratulations to Valerie Oliver, she has a new grandbaby.



Patrick Smith, Lisa Walker & Governor Bredesen

Class Updates

Morgan MaKayla was seven weeks early. She weighed 3lbs 14ozs. Everyone is home now and doing great.

On the personal side Nathan and Sherree Crowder celebrated their 1st wedding anniversary on October 25, 2009. On the professional side The Civil Rights Office (CRO) Affirmative Action Program Staff was presented the 2009 Best Practices Award at the Southern Transportation Civil Rights Training Symposium, comprised of eight southern states. The 2009 Best Practices Award was presented to the Affirmative Action Staff for its work on the quarterly Diversity Brown Bag Lunches.



Morgan MaKayla

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

Marie Crosson and Mike Robertson have been accepted to the very first class of LEAD Tennessee.

Mike Robertson has also recently been promoted to Regional Manager with TDEC, Division of State Parks. He is now the Middle West Tennessee Regional Manager and his office is on the 7th floor annex, L & C Tower (615-531-0434).

Pamela Boyd (Nana Pam) became a proud grandmother for the second time. Elias Gregory Boyd was born on October 5, 2009 in Clarksville, TN and is now living with his family in New York City, NY.

Linda Cone (class vice president) has been promoted to Assistant Director, Field Operations, Western Bureau, Driver Services, effective July 20, 2009. Her area of responsibility covers Davidson County, down thru Lincoln County, west to the Mississippi River

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

Marilou Cook was one of 8 nominees for outstanding Information Systems person from OIR. Each year the Information Technology Management Association recognizes those within the Information Technology community who have made a significant achievement in support of a key agency or state systems initiative or project.

Penny Dahl was elected President-Elect for this year and will serve as President next year of the Tennessee Association of Disability Examiners (TADE). This professional organization is a part of the National Association of Disability Examiners (NADE) and serves to provide information to the Commissioner of Social Security, State Representatives and lobbyist on improvements of the laws and guidelines for citizens who file for disability benefits.

Congratulations go out to Meredith Freeman, who is expecting her first child, a girl, on March 20th.

We welcome Easton Michael Hucks, son of Melissa Hucks, to the TGMI Fall Class of 07' family, born June 15th, 8 4.5 lbs and 21 ½ inches.

Congratulations go out to Todd "T.J." Jordan, TBI Special Agent In-Charge for his recent graduation from the 236th session of the FBI National Academy. This prestigious program is for upper level managers in law enforcement. Less than 1% of all law enforcement managers in the United States are selected to participate in this 11 week program. TJ said his achievement of graduating from the FBI program is, "next to TGMI, a career highlight".



Michael Hucks

Class Updates

We welcome Kinleigh "Brooke" Meeks into the TGMI Fall Class of 07' family. She is the daughter of Kelvin Meeks. She was born September 24th and is growing fast into a happy, healthy little girl. Her proud dad says she's very fortunate to have a 2 year old big brother that thinks she is the best thing since chocolate pudding!

Dale Rector has been named Chairman of the Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials, Radiation Focus Group.

Shaylondia Simmons is now with General Services' Property Service Management Division. She is responsible for monitoring all of the security contracts for State owned and leased buildings.

David White left State Government November 2008. He is working for Veteran's Affairs as a federal employee. His new email address is David.White@va.gov

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

Nathan Abbott welcomed TWO new babies this year. Nathan and his wife Amy welcomed their twin girls Sophie Jane Abbott and Ellie Reese Abbott on October 1, 2009 Sophie arrived at 6:23 PM; weighed 4 lbs, 16 oz and Ellie arrived at 6:24 PM; weighed 3 lbs, 5 oz.



April Wright's daughter Elizabeth performed in her first dance recital on June 18, 2009. She was just 32 months old and had been a dance student for a year at that time. She has since continued her dancing lessons and hopes to again be in next year's recital as well. Despite being the youngest student this year 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 2 and 3 year olds in their tap dance outfit and a single photo of her in her ballet



outfit, the other photo is of Elizabeth with her proud mom and Nana after her performance.

Philip Davis and Melissa Lucchesi were engaged on October 6th. Their plan is to be married September 18, 2010 in Memphis, TN.

Chris Harris was recently elected as a Member-at-Large on the TGMI Steering Committee. He will serve a two year term beginning on January 1, 2010.

James Robertson has been accepted to the very first class of LEAD Tennessee.

Class Updates

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

Tiffany Baker-Cox is now a member of the TGEI Class of 2009. She graduated on December 4.

Steve Goins has a lot to celebrate. He was recently promoted to the position of Environmental Program Manager 3/Deputy Director with TDEC's Division of Remediation. His wife, Alyssa Goins, recently received the Career of Excellence (COE) Award at LifeWay Christian Resources. The COE recognizes outstanding employees "whose sustained performance consistently surpasses expected goals and whose career of excellence contributes significantly to the work of LifeWay". Recipients are selected by LifeWay's management team based on established criteria that include length of service, superior performance, product or service ideas, cost savings projects, improved policies or procedures, church and community involvement, and personal/professional development. Steve's daughter, Diana, who graduated with honors from UT Knoxville's School of Nursing this summer, will marry Mark Newlin on Saturday, December 12th at First Baptist Church Nashville.

Georganne Martin was recently elected as a Member-at-Large on the TGMI Steering Committee. She will serve a two year term beginning on January 1, 2010.

Sabrina Williams has been promoted to Managing Attorney of the State Board of Equalization.

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

We just graduated, give us a little time....we will impress you!!

**Celebrating Government Service
(Reaching Out to the Next Generation)**

**Melvin Jones, Jr.
Director, Internal Audit & Consulting Services
Tennessee. Dept of Revenue
November 2009**

Too often, people have been conditioned to believe that being a government employee, in my case a state employee, is not a worthwhile and important vocation. In this age, too often people are exposed to the stereotype of “government employees” without seeing the better side of us. They are baited into believing that government employees do not earn their pay or that they are not concerned about doing a good job.

Have bad experiences happened to people? Sure, but what has the customer missed, in deciding that their single experience is the rule and not the exception? Good customer service means as much to me as it does to those I serve. Too often, we as government employees allow ourselves to be spoken ill of, or we will return venom with venom, thus the image of bitter people who just settled for government service is perpetuated.

I am glad to be in government service. I have raised a family, been able to help friends and family in need, and made my father and mother proud with my commitment, just as they made me proud as a military man and a military wife, and as civil servants in their own right. They served in a greater way, that I might one day do my part.

In 1969, my grandfather was not at home as hurricane Camille hit the little shack where my grandma, my aunts and us children huddled and rode out what was up to that point one of the worst hurricanes in history. He was not there, I was told, because he was doing his duty, and he did not come home to us till the storm was over. He worked for the City of Slidell. He once bragged to me that he had the key to every City building in Slidell, and he was very proud of the responsibility and the “prestige” of serving his city.

As government employees face layoffs, furloughs, and buyouts, I am humbled by the service these individuals have given and continue to give in the face of adversity. I know there are those who are considering retirement, to save another younger person’s job or who have just given a lifetime of dedicated service. They will say they are leaving to rest and enjoy their golden years, but you know they

understand doing more with less.

In this environment, all I can do is continue to give my best and to encourage young and vibrant individuals to see what I am and what those I admire in government are, and hopefully find a place for themselves beside us in government.

Now is not the time to shrink away. We need to tell the next generation not to lose faith in the great system that is the American democratic government. Now is the time, even in these harsh times, to step forward to serve; no matter what we may face. We have to encourage young people with the ability and intellect to join us, and we must be the good example. We must let them know about the best and brightest who have chosen government. We need the next generation of workers to see those in government who have received national recognition for their work and ideas and those who have been elected to serve on local, regional, and national professional boards and committees.

I hope we, as the leaders in state government, will remind everyone watching, especially the youth, that government service at any level is honorable service, and that we are proud of who we are and what we represent. We need to get the eager and determined to make their mark excited about the difference they can make in government, and maybe find a home, a place to grow, flourish, and be successful, serving their city, their county, their state, their nation and their fellow citizens.



2009 Habitat for Humanity Community Service Project Summary

By Jon Zirkle, Class of 2003

The fifth annual Habitat for Humanity community service project was held October 3, 2009 and was again a big success. The project was a little late this year in the fall instead of the traditional spring build. Even Habitat for Humanity was feeling the economic crunch like everyone else with reduced donations and less houses being built each season for us to potentially volunteer on. We hope to resume our traditional spring build next year.

I contacted the Nashville Area Habitat for Humanity in late February 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 seven of the eight days of construction on a house for a new owner that we met on site. Her name is Nakia Robinson and she and her son Michael are very excited to get into their new house. Habitat has contractors on site supervising the build and providing tools and they work rain or shine. They grouped us again this year with a Habitat Homestore sponsored house and we partnered with the American Society for Military Engineers for the day. The combined group installed wood floors, wood siding and did all manner of landscaping and cleaning inside and out.

The 7 volunteers that participated on the build day included personnel from five departments of state government and consisted of 5 TGMI alumni and 1 TGEI alumni. The other volunteer was a friend graciously helping out our esteemed chair.

The project was a success. We started out slowly again this year since Habitat was short on site supervisors but once everyone got on task and had the skill lessons they needed the work picked up and we completed all the day's tasks. Great teamwork! They have said in previous years it rarely rains at the project site and that has not been accurate this year. We had a great day to work with. It was a dry, cool, breezy day to work with. 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.

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.

Volunteers:

- Jon Zirkle (2003)
- Cynthia Stewart (2008-I)
- Lauren Hill (2006)
- Jane Polansky
- Linda Schulthise
- Phyllis Hodges (2008-II)
- Barbara Charlet (TGEI)





2009 Pre-boo night for Ghouls at Grassmere at Nashville Zoo

By Robyn Probus

For the second (and hopefully not last) year, TGMI alumni volunteered for the Nashville Zoo's annual Ghouls at Grassmere event on October 16, 2009. The participants ... Jon Zirkle and wife Molly, Jeanette Jones, Nancy Patterson and her 11-year-old son Rhys, Cassandra Thompson, and myself ... had a great time at the event helping out in the games booths, handing out candy and other treats to the kids, and just seeing all of the kids in their adorable costumes. Nancy's son Rhys had such a great time that he asked to volunteer again, and picked up a second night during this year's event.



Ghouls at Grassmere is designed to appeal to families with children under age 12 ... although our volunteers older than this seemed to enjoy it as much or more than the kids. The event includes trick-or-treating at themed treat stations, animal shows, activities, games, a haunted hay-ride, a Gypsy Mystery Maze, a Scary-go-Round, and more.

Thank you all for joining me in this event. I had a great time and am already looking forward to next year.



2009 Harpeth River Cleanup and Hike

By Jon Zirkle and Lauren Hill

The 2009 Harpeth River Cleanup was originally scheduled for Saturday, September 19 but had to be postponed to October 17 due to the wettest September on record that caused the Harpeth River to rise and stay above levels not conducive for garbage pickup. Come October 17 the river levels were tolerable but the event had to be cancelled due to rainy and very cool...make that **cold** weather. We hope to have good weather for the event next fall so everyone can enjoy canoeing this wonderful part of the river and helping out the environment too. The date for next year's event will be published when it is available.

Holiday Breakfast 2009



LEAD

Tennessee



2010 Participants

The following Participants are TGM Alumni
Congratulations to them all!!
<http://tennessee.gov/dohr/learning/leadtn.html>



Robert Lee Wright
Department of
Commerce &



Steven Gatlin
Department of
Correction



Julie Perrey
TRICOR



Richard Kennedy
Commission on
Children & Youth



Charles Bryson
Department of
Human Services



Michael Robertson
Department of Environment
& Conservation



Tiffany Baker Cox
Human Rights
Commission



Marie Crosson
Department of
Finance & Admini-
stration



James Roberson
Department of Labor
& Workforce Devel-
opment

LEAD Tennessee Strategic Learning Solutions Team

12-Month Journey Guides

Karen Eddy, Director

615-741-5546

Karen.Eddy@tn.gov

Trish Pulley, Assistant Director

615-741-4126

Trish.Pulley@tn.gov

Administrative Support

Sharon Buwalda

615-253-7975

Sharon.Buwalda@tn.gov

360° Support

Renee Jordan

615-253-8911

Renee.Jordan@tn.gov

More Class of 2009 Moments in Pictures





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!

