Executive Director’s Report

Lynn Tipton

Over the upcoming weekend, millions of citizens will celebrate the 230th birthday of the United States of America. A recent global poll showed that a sense of pride in one’s nation is stronger in the U.S. than any other country – and that pride is not just related to sporting events! While this pride and national celebration about the U.S.’s founding are commendable, less than half of U.S. citizens in a different poll, conducted earlier this year, could name the three branches of U.S. government. Civic education in Florida is not a school district priority in over 80% of the 67 school districts – in fact, it is a priority subject in only 10 of the districts.

As this Association and ICMA work together to build a new generation of local public managers, is it any wonder that schools of public administration and public policy struggle to attract students to their programs? I often am asked to be a guest speaker on the subject of city and county government in K-12 programs and at colleges, and I have yet to meet a K-12 student who could tell me the difference between a city or county…could tell me what a charter is…name more than 3 services provided by cities and counties (amazingly, most add schools or federal programs to the list!). While I may be discouraged by this, the situation also presents a great mission for me, the staff at the FLC, the staff at FAC, and the members of FCCMA, to reach out and be instructors. You already know we are working to select a college/university to develop a “center for excellence in Florida local public management,” but we also want to work with younger students. We have to teach the K-12 teachers, the students, and the public at large about Florida’s city and county governments—because no one can tell our story as well as we can, and because we need to help in building a stronger, wiser citizen base.

Your president, Lee Feldman, has chosen educational outreach as one of his top priorities for his year – and I hope you will join him in this effort. During October, he is challenging you to bring
students into city hall and your county administration building, and make local government real to each student. Whether this is shadowing (students matched up with you, department directors, etc.), or a mock-council or mock-commission meeting, or field trips to your landfill, recycling, wastewater and water treatment plants, planning department or whatever – you have a great opportunity to let students see, touch, smell and even taste what your city or county does every day. Lee believes, and I agree, that we need to bring students into our workplace so they can see the challenges and benefits of careers in city and county government. You will receive more information on this soon – so start making your plans!

Emerging Professionals Symposium
Make plans to attend and send your staff to this year’s Emerging Professionals Symposium. It will be October 13 in the Orlando area; details are still being worked out. Cost is minimal ($125) for the day, and the program will be beneficial to those professionals moving into or up in the ranks of city/county government. Watch for more information to come with speaker and location announcements. Registration materials will be available in August.

MIT News and Update
Listed here are the current members-in-transition. Susan Boyer, former manager of Crystal River, sboverhwood@aol.com; Frank Spence, former manager of Mangonia Park, frspence@att.net; Stella Heath, former assistant manager of Frostproof, 863.639.2178; and Maria Davis, former manager of South Miami, Mdavis2282@aol.com; and Ken Sauer, former manager, City of Starke, sauerekc@juno.com. Word has been received regarding two or three others, but the contact information is not available at press time.

New Members
The following membership applications have been received. If no current member comes forth with a reason why these applicants should not be approved as members, they will be invoiced for dues. Michael Grebosz, Special Projects Coordinator, DeLand, affiliate member; Thomas H. Hurt, City Manager, St. Cloud, full member; Charles R. Jordan, Management Intern, Jacksonville, Rachel Lambert, Town Manager, Fort Myers Beach, associate member; John B. Rohan, District Administrator, Sumter Landing Community Development District, affiliate member; Ray Thomlinson, President, The Crowne Group, corporate member; Wendy Widmann, Deputy City Manager/Admin. Services Director, City of Cocoa, associate member; Doug Wright, County Administrator, Flagler County, associate member; and Gary Word, Village Manager, Islamorada, Village of Islands, associate member.

ICMA Conference-San Antonio, Texas
Once again FCCMA will be hosting a hospitality suite at the ICMA conference. Suite assignments have not been received yet, so watch the August newsletter for more information. On Monday night, September 11, there will be a Dutch Treat dinner at the hotel. Cost will be kept as low as possible to the membership through a subsidy from FCCMA, and it is hoped that at least 75 will be able to attend. The reservation forms are at the end of this newsletter and will be in the August newsletter also. Remember, the conference is early this year—September 10-13—so sign up quickly, please.
**Member News**

Word was received that Bruce T. Haddock, City Manager of Oldsmar, was recognized for 20 consecutive years of service as the manager in Oldsmar. Congratulations, Bruce!

**Positions**

**County Administrator – Taylor County**

Taylor County, population 20,000, is seeking a highly motivated and experienced leader for the position of County Administrator (SALARY RANGE: $65,561 - $73,798). The County is located in the Northern section of Florida, in the deepest indentation of the Gulf Coast line. Taylor County is the gateway to Florida's Nature Coast supplying recreational fishing and hunting. Its central location is ideal for serving all major markets in the entire Southeast - all roads lead to Perry.

The County Administrator, appointed by and serving at the pleasure of a five (5) member Board of County Commissioners, is responsible for carrying out the policies and directives of the Commission. The County employs approximately 130 full and part time personnel and has a total operating budget of approximately 38 million dollars. The County Administrator, as the administrative head of the County, is responsible to the Board for the administration and day-to-day operations of all departments of the county government, under their control.

Work involves the responsibility for the application of specialized knowledge and administrative skills in the formulation, implementation, modification and improvement of long and short-range projects and administration of county government. The County Administrator will be responsible for all duties as assigned by the Board of County Commissioners.

Requirements include possession of a Bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university, preferably a Masters degree with major course work in business or public administration, political science or closely related field. Five (5) years experience in upper level management.

Position open until filled. Start date approximately September 22, 2006. Entire job description and application can be obtained from [www.tcfl-libinfo.com](http://www.tcfl-libinfo.com) or Taylor Employment Connections, 1702 S. Jefferson Street, Perry, FL. 32348. Taylor County is an AA/EOE/Vet Pref/Drug Free Workplace.

**Assistant Town Manager, Lauderdale-By-The Sea**

Qualified applicants must possess a graduate degree with a concentration in public administration, public affairs, public policy or public finance and two (2) years experience as an appointed city or county manager, or four (4) years experience as an assistant/deputy city or county manager.

Salary $71,545.97 - $107,319.51; position open until filled.

Applications to be sent to Town of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, Attn: Town Manager’s Office, 4501 Ocean Drive, Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, FL 33308. Equal Opportunity Employer, M/F/D/V, Drug-Free Workplace.
Planner – Taylor County, Florida -- $37,777-$39,145
Taylor County is a small county beginning to experience tremendous growth expansion. This is professional and challenging planning work in conducting independent studies, completing planning projects, and regulating the growth and development of the County in accordance with the Comprehensive Plan and other statutes, ordinances, and regulations related to land use and community studies, development of special area plans and comprehensive plan amendments. This is a responsible, highly visible position requiring supervisory skills, political sensitivity, problem solving, consensus building, vision setting and the ability to make land use and comprehensive planning recommendations. The Planner is expected to exercise independent judgment on planning issues within the parameters established by legal requirements, departmental, and county policy. Candidate must have graduated from an accredited college or university with major course work in urban and regional planning or a closely related field, including land use planning, environmental planning or land development and 2 years of professional planning experience or any equivalent combinations of related training and experience. Entire job description and application can be obtained from www.tcfl-libinfo.com or Taylor Employment Connections 1702 S. Jefferson Street, Perry, FL. 32348. Position is open until filled. Taylor County is an EOE/AA/VP/DFW employer.

Dates to Remember
- August 10-12, 2006 – Florida League of Cities Annual Conference
- September 10-13, 2006 – ICMA Annual Conference, San Antonio, Texas
- October 13, 2006 – Emerging Professionals Symposium-Location to be determined
- February 8-9, 2007 – Winter Institute, St. Augustine

Dutch-Treat Dinner
On Monday, September 11, 2006 in San Antonio during the ICMA Conference, a Dutch-Treat Dinner has been planned for FCCMA members and guests. It will be at the conference Marriott hotel; more details to follow. If you would like to sign up, please fill out the form on the next page. If paying by check (preferred method), please make it out to FCCMA. Cost is $40 per person, which includes soup, Rosemary Chicken, vegetables, rolls, coffee, tea, dessert and full bar. We need responses by August 30, please. More details in the August newsletter.
I/We plan to attend the FCCMA Dutch-Treat Dinner in San Antonio on September 11 at 7:00 p.m. Cost is $40 per person for dinner and beverages. It will be at the Marriott Rivercenter—room will be announced later.

Name(s): ____________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________
City: __________________________, State: ___________ Zip: __________

E-mail: ____________________________________________

Amount enclosed: ______________________________________

Payment Method: Check___________________________

Credit Card: Visa__________; MasterCard______________ This will show on your statement as a charge from the Florida League of Cities

Name as it appears on the card:

Card No. ____________________________

Expiration Date: _______________________

Please mail the form with payment to: Lynn Lovallo, PO Box 1757, Tallahassee, FL 32302 or Fax it to: 850.222.3806.