

# UPTOWN

## Annual Meeting encourages collaborative partnerships

**M**ore than 676 municipal officials from cities and towns across South Carolina took advantage of more than 40 learning opportunities offered during MASC's Annual Meeting July 10-13. Delegates chose from sessions ranging from a 15-minute demonstration about wireless law enforcement technology (see related story on page 8) to a hands-on session about building a municipal budget to the conference keynote address by annexation expert David Rusk.

"If you are a municipal official and you wanted to learn how to do an even better job," said MASC Executive Director Howard Duvall, "this was the place to be. Nowhere else will you find training designed

specifically to meet the needs of South Carolina municipal elected officials."

In addition to the scheduled training sessions, opportunities to network with fellow municipal officials were endless. Officials talked about common concerns as they walked between sessions, shared best practices as they waited for sessions to start and discussed solutions to difficult problems after the official day's sessions were adjourned.

"It's always good to get new ideas to network with other individuals — to see if they'll be beneficial to our area," said Greenwood Mayor Floyd Nicholson.

"The biggest thing is that you do get to talk with other people in other towns and see how they are doing things," added Abbeville Assistant Manager

Nolan Wiggins. "A lot of times, one town may be doing something to deal with an issue, and this allows us to look into how they are handling something."

"Collaborative partnerships" became the unofficial meeting theme and was echoed by statements from incoming MASC President Lillian Flemming, keynote speaker David Rusk, former mayor of Albuquerque, N.M., and luncheon speaker Jesse Washington, S.C. Human Affairs commissioner.

Flemming, 2003-2004 MASC president and a councilmember from Greenville, called for the upcoming year to be one of collaborative partnerships.

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Councilmember Lillian Flemming of Greenville will serve as 2003-2004 MASC president.

### Ready to lead

**"I** am not a military officer, but I am ready to lead if you will work with me," declared newly elected MASC President Lillian Flemming. "We are on a mission for 2004 to have collaborative partnerships."

Delegates at MASC's Annual Meeting elected Flemming, a councilmember from Greenville, during the association's business meeting in July. Delegates also elected 2003-2004 officers and filled five vacancies on the 18-member board (see page 11).

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## News Briefs



■ Danny Crowe, MASC general counsel, is the first recipient of the Civility Award given by the Richland County Bar Association. The award will be presented annually and is given to an attorney who exemplifies the ideals of civility and respect in his/her treatment of others.

■ The State Revolving Fund (SRF) Program provides long-term loans to communities for construction, distribution and collection activities of drinking water and clean water (wastewater) facilities. South Carolina was recently notified of the availability of fiscal year 2003 Drinking Water SRF funds of more than \$8 million. To be put on the priority list, contact Tom McDonough at 803.898.4038 or visit [www.scdhec.net/water/html/srf.html](http://www.scdhec.net/water/html/srf.html).

■ Mark M. Williams, town administrator for the Town of Summerville, was recently appointed by Governor Mark Sanford as municipal representative to the Accommodations Tax Expenditure Oversight Committee.

■ Tammy P. Barkley, municipal clerk for the City of Cayce, has earned the Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) designation by meeting the educational, experience and service requirements of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks.

■ Belinda S. Harper, CMC, finance officer/clerk/treasurer for the City of Seneca, has been accepted as a member in the Master Municipal Clerk Academy Program of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks.

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## Partnerships continued from cover

"We need to get rid of that 'I can do it alone' attitude and work together to take hold of our cities and towns," she said.

Rusk emphasized the 2003 Annual Meeting theme of "Stronger Cities for a Stronger South Carolina" and pointed a sharp finger at South Carolina's weak annexation laws.

"South Carolina's bad annexation laws ... condemn the state's cities to slow decline. In my view, North Carolina has the best annexation laws; they virtually guarantee that their cities will be successful," he said. "North Carolina's philosophy is that if you choose to live in an urbanizing area, you are benefiting from what a nearby city offers; you should not be allowed to cherry-pick only city benefits and accept none of the responsibilities as a taxpayer and voter. Thus, North Carolina law virtually compels its cities to annex urbanizing areas by council ordinance alone, regardless of the preferences of property owners."

Rusk urged delegates to work together to convince the General Assembly to adopt North Carolina's philosophy and laws. He also suggested working to have pro-municipal legislators elected and to "encourage your best and brightest to serve on county councils or have proven city council veterans continue their public service on county councils."

In his inspiring speech, Washington talked about accepting one another and one another's differences. By doing so, you will create stronger relationships, according to Washington. When strong relationships are developed, it is easier to pull together and stand up for what is right and good.

"We must take the message of 'Stronger Cities for a Stronger South Carolina' back to our state legislators," said 2002-2003 MASC President Dan Breazeale. "We should not have to fight every year to preserve Home Rule, the right of local elected officials to make the tough decisions. We should be partners with the General Assembly in building a stronger state."



"Collaborative partnerships" became the unofficial meeting theme echoed by speakers throughout the weekend.

# Snapshots of MASC's Annual Meeting

*"If you are a municipal official and you wanted to learn how to do an even better job, this was the place to be."*  
— Howard Duvall, MASC executive director



Is your community authentic?

## Newberry site of 2003 Community Builders Conference

Though a departure from traditional Community Builders Conference sites, Newberry is a natural choice for the 2003 gathering October 23-24. Newberry is a community that has been true to itself, building its identity around a centerpiece — the Newberry Opera House. The town has been named among the Top 100 Best Small Towns in America.

The recently renovated Newberry Opera House, home to most of this year's conference sessions and events, is a proud symbol of a community that not only remembers its rich, significant past, but also one that has taken great strides to preserve its history.

When working in communities, Community Builders often asks the question, "Who are you as a place?" and advises, "Don't try to be something you are not." Community Builders encourages community leaders to travel back and examine their community's roots. What is *authentic* and special about your community? Is it a railroad, a mill, a river or some other natural or a man-made element? And Newberry has done just this.

This year's opening session speaker, Charles Birnbaum, will present "Listening to the Landscape and the Discourse of the Street." Birnbaum is coordinator for the Historic Landscape Initiative with the National Park Service (NPS) in Washington, D.C. Before he joined the NPS, he spent

10 years in private practice focusing on landscape preservation. His most recent projects include the online series, *Cultural Landscapes as Classrooms*, *Landscape Preservation in Context* and *Preserving Modern Landscape Architecture*.

Birnbaum will explore the interface between landscape architecture, urban design and historic preservation in our downtown commercial areas. He will ask the question, "How site-specific are the solutions?" while showcasing projects that share the quest for economic sustainability, revitalization of community character and sense of place.

This year's conference will also include Community Builders' annual awards celebration to recognize the people working out front and behind the scenes in South Carolina communities to create the **authentic** communities we love.

For more information on the conference, e-mail [blegrand@masc.sc](mailto:blegrand@masc.sc) or call 803.933.1231. For more information on upcoming shows and events at the Newberry Opera House, visit [www.newberryoperahouse.com](http://www.newberryoperahouse.com) or call 803.276.6264.



The Opera House is the centerpiece Newberry has utilized to build its identity.

### 2003 Community Builders Conference topics

- Fund-Raising Challenges and Solutions
- Community Development — The Irish Experience
- Rebirth of a Historic Opera House — Behind the Scenes
- Community Builders' Dine-Around the Newberry Way

## HIPAA workshop

The S.C. Municipal Personnel Association (SCMPA) will host a workshop to discuss recent changes in the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) on September 23 at offices of the

Municipal Association of South Carolina in Columbia from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Mark Halloway, senior vice president, and Deirdre Kelley, vice president of Aon Consulting Inc., will review municipality responsibilities

and liabilities concerning an individual's Protected Healthcare Information (PHI). The cost is \$35, and the workshop is open to non-MPA members. To register or for more information, contact Vivian McDonald at 803.933.1208.

# 2003 Achievement Award Winner

## Population Category 0-1,000: Town of Trenton

### Natural gas stirs economic development

**F**or years, citizens in Trenton wanted access to the comfort and convenience of natural gas service. However, the cost of constructing a gas transmission pipeline to the town was not economically feasible.

An opportunity arose when a manufacturing company looking to locate in Trenton required that natural gas be available. With the prospect of bringing an industry to the town, the Town Council, along with SCE&G and the S.C. Department of Commerce, acquired more than \$200,000 in grants to bring natural gas to town limits.

Unfortunately, no provisions were made to extend the service throughout the town for residential, commercial and other industrial uses. After vigorous negotiations with SCE&G, numerous meetings and a survey of residents to determine the demand for natural gas service, Town Council approved a one-time payment of \$45,000 to extend the pipeline into town and to provide access to everyone.

Adding the natural gas service has greatly enhanced not only the lives of its citizens, but also Trenton's economic development opportunities. More than 40 homes, two apartment complexes,

two churches, Town Hall, the fire department, several businesses and the local elementary school are being served by natural gas. The pipeline has also attracted other industries, bringing jobs and a brighter future to the Town of Trenton.



*For more information about this project, contact Bernard Welborn at 864.993.4335.*

*MASC recognizes and encourages innovations and excellence in local government through its Achievement Awards. Started in 1987, the program provides local government officials and employees the opportunity to receive deserved recognition for superior and innovative efforts in local government. The program also provides a forum for sharing the best public service ideas in South Carolina. For more information, visit MASC's Web site at [www.masc.sc](http://www.masc.sc) or call Christie Zeller at 803.933.1215.*



Top, Trenton town officials joined SCE&G representatives for a ceremony to mark the official turn of the valve giving Trenton residents natural gas service.

Above, SCE&G installs a natural gas meter at the local elementary school.

## Prize-winning officials

Councilmembers Allen Gallman of Prosperity and Phil Mottel of North Augusta were announced the winners of a Gateway Profile 4L computer during the President's Banquet at MASC's 2003 Annual Meeting. Gallman and Mottel attended either a Technology or a Service Demonstration in the Welcome and Technology Center during the Annual Meeting for a chance to win the computer. These computers

were provided compliments of MASC, MASC Risk Management Services (RMS) and RMS' third-party administrators: Arthur J. Gallagher & Company, Medical Claims Management Corporation, Sedgewick Claims Management Services and Companion Third Party Administrators.

Councilmember Betty Kinard of Clinton won the Exhibitor Call Card Prize Drawing on Friday. She received

a complimentary registration to MASC's 2004 Annual Meeting, including a set of meal tickets.

Woodruff Councilmember Audrey Bettis and Woodruff Manager Scott Slatton won the First-Timers' Program door prizes. Both received free registrations to the 2004 Annual Meeting. Each first-timer who attended the program received a free MASC publication from the Welcome and Technology Center.

# Highly effective habits of government finance officers

**N**ow more than ever, government finance officers must be diligent about their responsibilities as local governments strive to stay on solid financial ground. During a time of tight budgets and uncertain revenues, it is more important than ever for local government finance officers to implement and cultivate the “highly effective habits of successful government finance officers.” Following are just a few:

## **Pay attention to your fund balance and working capital reserves. Anticipate the unanticipated.**

Do you know what a reasonable fund balance level is for your government? Can you justify it? Not only is it important to ensure that there are adequate funds available in the event of unanticipated financial setbacks or emergencies, but you also need to ensure you have support from your council and management to get there.

**Perform a debt analysis on a regular basis.** Is the state limit of 8 percent of assessed value reasonable for your government, or does your government need to have a lesser debt limit? A finance officer should have a good handle on current and projected debt and have a sound plan in place to eliminate the debt on a reasonable schedule. A periodic review of this schedule is required to determine if adjustments are necessary to

accommodate fiscal constraints or to accelerate debt reduction.

**Establish a five-year capital improvement plan.** Evaluate current and future capital needs and develop a plan to finance them. Remember that expanded operations will cause additional expenses and recurring costs such as increased energy consumption and maintenance expenses. One major shortfall of many governments is not incorporating these increasing facility operation costs into their budgets and forecasts.

**Implement multiyear forecasting and trend analysis.** Are you committing detailed multiyear forecasts to paper? If so, do you see trends that indicate potential problems or issues? Be aware of trends that may affect your financial condition and to what extent. Incorporate these projections into your financial management and long-term planning. A finance officer is not doing a complete job if he/she is just preparing a one-year budget.

These and eight other habits will be presented by Larry Finney of Greene, Finney & Horton LLP at his upcoming session, “Highly Effective Habits of Government Finance Officers,” at the 2003 Fall Session of the Municipal Clerks and Treasurers Institute. The institute is scheduled for September 3-5 at the Adam’s Mark Hotel in Columbia.

## Municipal Clerks and Treasurers Institute 2003 Fall Session topics

- Legislative Update
- Property Boundary Lines
- Managing Risk: Safety Report Card and Cost of Risk
- The Ins and Outs of Hospitality and Accommodation Taxes
- Records Management Update
- Notary Public Overview
- Legal and Regulatory Update
- Legal Roles and Responsibilities of the Municipal Clerk

The Municipal Clerks and Treasurers Institute (MCTI) is a cooperative program sponsored by the Municipal Association of South Carolina and the Center for Governmental Services at the University of South Carolina’s Institute of Public Service and Policy Research. Successful completion of MCTI satisfies the education requirements for certification in both the International Institute of Municipal Clerks and the Association of Public Treasurers. A scholarship is available for eligible clerks and treasurers.

*For more information, contact Margaret Lumpkin at 803.933.1238 or, to register, visit the MASC Web site, [www.masc.sc](http://www.masc.sc).*



# Property rights compromise

Over the years, a variety of special-interest groups have argued for legislation that could greatly expand a government's responsibility to pay property owners for any regulations that affect the value of their private property. Local governments have continued to counter that the Comprehensive Planning Enabling Act of 1994 requires public notice and review of land use decisions and should suffice as proper protection of private property rights. This year, the General Assembly passed the Land Use Dispute Resolution Act (Act 39) that is a workable compromise for both sides, said MASC Executive Director Howard Duvall.

Act 39 gives property owners an additional process to appeal the decision of the Board of Zoning Appeals, the Board of Architectural Review and, in some cases, the Planning Commission. It also institutes mandatory education requirements for zoning officials and for board and commission members.

The new procedure allows a property owner to request pre-litigation mediation in addition to appealing a decision to the circuit court. The mediation is conducted in accordance with the South Carolina Alternative Dispute Resolution rules. The city/town must notify all parties, property owners and people with substantial interest and allow them to attend the mediation. If the mediation is successful, the mediated settlement must be presented to the local governing body and the circuit court for approval. If either does not approve the settlement, the party may appeal. This mediation procedure applies to decisions of the Board of Architectural Review and to land development regulations of the Planning Commission.

The act also establishes mandatory certification and training requirements

for employees and officials who handle planning, zoning and land use regulations. This includes members of the Planning Commission, the Board of Zoning Appeals, the Board of Architectural Review and staff involved with planning and land use regulation.

The training requirements will be implemented in phases. Municipalities with populations greater than 70,000 must comply by January 1, 2005. Municipalities with populations of 35,000 to 70,000 must comply by January 1, 2006. Municipalities with populations less than 35,000 must comply by January 1, 2007.

The law establishes a state Advisory Committee on Educational Requirements for Local Government Planning and Zoning Officials and Employees. The committee is composed of five members appointed by the governor. Their duties are to approve the educational courses, to determine the categories of people exempt from the requirements and to prepare an annual report to the legislature.

Planning and zoning officials and employees will be required to complete six hours of educational courses within the first year after appointment and three hours annually thereafter. Exemptions from the requirements will be given to those certified by the American Institute of Certified Planners with a master's or doctorate degree in planning, with a master's or doctorate degree in a specialized area related to planning or a licensed lawyer. Certification of completed training must be filed each year by the anniversary date of the official's appointment or the employee's hiring.

MASC will offer courses meeting the certification requirements once the state Advisory Committee sets the requirements.



## Classifieds

■ The City of Chester is accepting applications for the position of police chief. Submit resumé to City of Chester, Attention Personnel Department, 100 West End Street, Chester, SC 29706 or e-mail to [croof@infoave.net](mailto:croof@infoave.net). Applications accepted until position is filled. EOE/H

■ The City of Loris is accepting applications for the position of city administrator. A bachelor's degree in public/business management and two to five years of experience in government is required. Send resumé by August 29 to the City of Loris, PO Box 548, Loris, SC 29569-0548. EOE

■ Florence County is accepting applications for an executive assistant to the county administrator. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree (master's degree preferred) in business administration, administrative management or related field supplemented with three to five years of administrative experience in local government. Applications accepted at Florence County Human Resources, Room 103, City-County Complex, Florence, SC 29501. EOE

■ The City of Lumberton, N.C., is accepting applications for a city attorney. Previous experience in local government and a member of the North Carolina Bar Association is preferred. Send a letter of interest, five references and resumé to Dr. Raymond Pennington, Mayor, City of Lumberton, 501 East 5th Street, Lumberton, NC 28358 by August 31. EOE

For more information on these and other job opportunities, visit MASC's Web site at [www.masc.sc](http://www.masc.sc).

## Clearing a communication traffic jam

**D**irecting traffic is one of those duties that goes hand in hand with being a police officer. Unfortunately, massive communication traffic on two-way radios is not something police officers can easily direct. When law enforcement officers of Conyers, Ga., tried to police the 55,000 people coming in and out of their town each day with only two police channels, they found themselves in the middle of a communication traffic jam, explained Captain Scott Freeman at MASC's Annual Meeting. The officers were literally waiting in line to get the critical information they needed to do their job and save lives.

To solve this problem, town officials implemented a wireless information solution. With a price tag of approximately \$7,000 per car, Conyers installed a laptop computer system into the floorboard of 35 police cars. In February, the City of Columbia also signed a contract to implement a wireless law enforcement communication solution.

While these are two examples in the Southeast, public safety agencies across the country are using wireless information solutions. These solutions allow officers to send and receive dispatch calls, access crime information, communicate with other officers and provide immediate status updates to their departments via laptop computers installed in their police cars.

Using touch screen technology, officers in Conyers have a variety of options and information right at their fingertips. They are able to communicate with the dispatcher, but are no longer dependent on just the dispatcher to get the information they need. Before implementing the technology, officers were waiting more than four minutes to get information about a personal inquiry from dispatchers. Now officers can get exactly what they need with just a few keystrokes.



Captain Scott Freeman with the City of Conyers demonstrates computer software installed in his police car at MASC's Annual Meeting.

A map on the computer screen shows the location of every police car in the field. Officers can see which cars are closest to the scene and coordinate units to surround a certain location. The system also lists pending calls and what officer is assigned to the call — if one hasn't been assigned, the officer can self-dispatch, saving precious time for all involved.

Another positive aspect of the technology is that police no longer have to worry about scanners picking up information they don't want broadcast to the public. The system has a "silent dispatch" function so officers and the dispatch center can coordinate a response without voice communication, increasing the number of solved crimes.

With the help of wireless law enforcement technology, public safety agencies across the country have cleared the lines of communication and are able to provide safer, more efficient services to their citizens.

### Technology Enhanced City Hall (TECH) program

MASC offers S.C. cities affordable access to technology services to increase productivity and enhance customer service.

#### Services Provided through TECH:

- CitizenRequest Module
- Online payments: Utility Bill Module/Tax Module
- Web Site Content Management Tool
- Web Site Design
- Web Site Hosting
- Technology Assessments
- Technical Support and Service
- Technology Listserve
- Technology-related articles in *Uptown* newsletter

For more information, call Miriam Hair at 803.933.1204 or e-mail her at [mhair@masc.sc](mailto:mhair@masc.sc).



## Thirteen graduate from Municipal Elected Officials Institute

MASC, along with the USC Institute of Public Service and Policy Research and Clemson University's Strom Thurmond Institute, recognized 13 municipal officials for graduating from the S.C. Municipal Elected Officials Institute of Government (MEOIG). Graduates received their certificates during MASC's Annual Meeting in July. Institute topics address the varied concerns of local government, such as powers and duties of elected officials, finance and planning/zoning. Classes are offered the day prior to MASC's Winter Meeting in February and via satellite throughout the year. The institute draws its faculty from experts in local government. The next sessions, "The Benefits and Perils of Economic Development" and "The Forms of Government," will be held September 4 via satellite. *For registration information, call Nancy Brown at 803.933.1224 or e-mail [nbrown@masc.sc](mailto:nbrown@masc.sc).*



The summer 2003 MEOIG graduates are, in alphabetical order, Michael Chestnut of Myrtle Beach, David Donald of Central, Harry Felder of Blackville, Nancy Foster of Bamberg, Gary Haynes of Estill, Amelia Herlong of Saluda, Gloria Hines of Darlington, Henry Jolly of Gaffney, David McFarland of Hartsville, Terrance Middleton of Andrews, William Shirley of Hartsville, Jan Waring-Woods of Summerville and George Williams of Hilton Head Island. (Note: Not all graduates listed appear in photo.)

## Changes coming for SCMIT and SCMIRF

The votes are in. At a recent strategic planning session that brought the board members of the S.C. Municipal Insurance Trust (SCMIT) and the S.C. Municipal Insurance and Risk Financing (SCMIRF) Fund together for the first time, a decision was made to make some changes in MASC's Risk Management Services' (RMS) claims administration process.

"Although the system is not broken, we wanted to see if we could improve the effectiveness of our claims administration process," said Harvey Mathias, director of MASC's Risk Management Services.

Currently, Companion Third Party Administrators handles claims for SCMIT, and Sedgewick Claims Management handles claims for

SCMIRF. RMS requested proposals from both companies to maintain their current administrative duties and to administer claims for both programs.

RMS staff also researched bringing the claims administration process in-house. Staff requested quotes from two computer software claim vendors for purchasing or leasing specialized software. After reviewing the quotes, staff determined handling the claims in-house would not be an economical or a timely option.

At the SCMIT/SCMIRF Strategic Planning Session held June 19-20, both boards voted unanimously for Companion Third Party Administrators to handle claims administration for both programs beginning January 1, 2004.

"We envision we will retain the current staff. There is already a good working relationship between the examiners and our members, as well as with our staff," said Mathias. Having one claims administrator for both programs will allow RMS to become more involved in the overall claims administration process.

Although Companion is primarily responsible for the transition, RMS staff will assist in the conversion to ensure the change is as transparent as possible to members.

SCMIT and SCMIRF are two of MASC's self-funded insurance programs. SCMIT provides workers' compensation protection for municipal employees; SCMIRF provides all lines of property and casualty coverage.

## 2002 SCMIT Occupational Safety Contest winners

Each year, the S.C. Municipal Insurance Trust (SCMIT) sponsors an Occupational Safety Contest for its members. During the Awards Breakfast at MASC's 2003 Annual Meeting, SCMIT recognized eight municipalities for their safety efforts. The competition is based on OSHA and loss-ratio data.

First-place winners each receive a \$2,000 credit toward the purchase of safety equipment and/or safety training. Each co-winner receives a \$1,500 credit. All winners received engraved plaques for their accomplishments.

### Division 1

(10 to 50 employees)

#### First Place —

Town of Hampton

#### Second Place —

Town of Hemingway

### Division 2

(51 to 150 employees)

#### First Place —

Greer CPW

#### Second Place —

Town of Fort Mill

#### Third Place —

Town of Cheraw

### Division 3

(151 or more employees)

#### First Place —

Orangeburg DPU  
City of Clemson

#### Third Place —

City of Greer

SCMIT provides self-funded workers' compensation protection for municipal employees.

## 10,000 Steps to Wellness: An award-winning idea

The Board of Trustees of the S.C. Municipal Insurance Trust (SCMIT) named the City of Clemson as this year's Safety Idea Award winner for "10,000 Steps to Wellness." Clemson will receive a \$500 check for this accomplishment.

The 10,000 Steps to Wellness Program was initiated by the city's Safety Committee, which ordered pedometers for all its employees. The basic premise is that physically fit employees are healthier, safer and better able to perform their jobs.

The pedometers, emblazoned with City of Clemson logos, were a big hit with employees. The Safety Committee challenged all employees to take 10,000 steps per day. Many employees accepted the challenge for better health.

Contests are held each month between departments to see who walks the most — or takes the most steps — according to pedometer



Employees of the City of Clemson participate in the 10,000 Steps to Wellness Program.

readings. A trophy is passed to the winning department each month.

To date, several employees have lost weight and are enjoying healthier lifestyles. One employee lost more than 40 pounds.

"Congratulations to the City of Clemson for working to keep employees physically fit, active and healthy," said Harvey Mathias, director of Risk Management Services.

*For more information on this program, call Jeff Thompson at 803.933.1216.*

## S.C. Forestry Commission awards 2003 Urban & Community Forestry Grants

The S.C. Forestry Commission, with funding from the U.S. Forest Service, recently awarded 32 grants totaling \$230,000 during the 2003 Urban and Community Forestry (U&CF) Grant Assistance Cycle. This is a matching grant program to provide funding for projects designed to improve the management, conservation and maintenance of tree resources in and around S.C. communities.

The following municipalities are among the grant recipients and will receive between \$1,000 to \$10,000

for their projects: City of Beaufort, City of Columbia, City of Conway, City of Darlington, City of Dillon, City of Florence, City of Georgetown, City of Marion, City of Mullins, Town of Mount Pleasant, Town of Patrick, City of Rock Hill, City of Sumter, City of Tega Cay and the City of York.

*To receive information about grants available in 2004, contact Gloria Freeman at [gfreeman@forestry.state.sc.us](mailto:gfreeman@forestry.state.sc.us) or visit the S.C. Forestry Commission Web site at [www.state.sc/forest/urban](http://www.state.sc/forest/urban).*

## MASC 2003-2004 board of directors

The following officers were elected to one-year terms:

### President

Councilmember Lillian Flemming of Greenville

### First Vice President

Mayor Tom Peeples of Hilton Head Island

### Second Vice President

Councilmember Elouise James of Clemson

### Third Vice President

Mayor Doug Echols of Rock Hill

### Past President

Mayor Dan Breazeale of Lexington

Board members are elected to three-year terms. The board is composed of representatives from each of the 10 regional planning districts and three at-large seats.

### Board Members

Mayor LaRue Alford of Lake City  
Representing: At-large

Mayor Carol Burdette of Pendleton  
Representing: At-large

Mayor Edith Cantrell of Lowrys  
Representing: Catawba Regional Planning Council

Mayor Fred Cavanaugh of Aiken  
Representing: Lower Savannah Council of Governments

Mayor Harry Cone of Walterboro  
Representing: Lowcountry Council of Governments

Mayor Rick Danner of Greer  
Representing: Appalachian Council of Governments

Councilmember Sam Davis of Columbia  
Representing: Central Midlands Council of Governments

City Manager Tom Leath of Myrtle Beach  
Representing: Waccamaw Planning & Development Council

Councilmember Bill Painter of Sumter  
Representing: Santee-Lynches Council of Governments

Mayor James Risher of Gifford  
Representing: At-large

Mayor Benjy Rogers of Bennettsville  
Representing: Pee Dee Regional Council of Governments

Mayor George Rush of Ware Shoals  
Representing: Upper Savannah Council of Governments

Councilmember Paul Tinkler of Charleston  
Representing: Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments



## For Sale

■ **Fire Truck** The Chester Fire District has for sale a 1980 LTI 100-foot platform fire truck for \$80,000. For more information, contact Chief David T. McAbee at 803.385.2123.

■ **Fire Truck** The Town of Johnston is asking \$6,500 for a 1963 GMC Pumper. Contact Frances Quarles at 803.275.2488 or e-mail [townhall@johnstonsc.org](mailto:townhall@johnstonsc.org) for more information.

■ **Fire Truck** The Town of Summerville has a 1981 65-foot Smeal Aerial ladder truck for sale. For more information, call Fire Chief Robert Brown at 843.873.5107 or Mark Williams at 843.871.6000.

■ **Prisoner Transport Barriers** The City of Johnsonville is selling two prisoner transport barriers. For more information, call Chief Ron Douglas at the Johnsonville Police Department at 843.386.3500.

■ **Police Car** The Town of Pamplico is selling a 1994 Ford Crown Victoria with a police package and Whelen strobe light for \$2,000 or best offer. For more information, call Chief Scott Tanner at 843.493.5551.

## News Briefs

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■ The S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) awarded eight municipality water systems \$76,500 to repair or replace fluoridation equipment to help prevent tooth decay. The following received DHEC-administered grants from the Centers for Disease Control and

Prevention: Batesburg-Leesville, Beaufort-Jasper, Belton-Honea Path, Cheraw, Clinton, Darlington, Sumter and York.

■ The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is administering \$150 million of federal funding to communities developing hazard mitigation plans. Application deadline is October 6.

Funds are also available for post-disaster planning. After November 1, local mitigation plans must be approved by FEMA in order for communities to receive pre-disaster mitigation grants for local mitigation projects. For more information about funding or preparing mitigation plans, visit [www.planning.org/research/disaster.htm](http://www.planning.org/research/disaster.htm).



## Educational Opportunities

### Municipal Clerks and Treasurers Institute

■ **September 3-5**, will hold its Fall Session at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Columbia. Topics include "Notary Public Overview," "Legal Roles and Responsibilities of the Municipal Clerk" and "Records Management Update." See related article on page 6.

### Municipal Elected Officials Institute of Government

■ **September 4**, will present "Benefits and Pitfalls of Economic Development" and "Forms of Government" via the Hometown Network.

### S.C. Business Licensing Officials Association

■ **October 14-16**, will hold its Annual Meeting at the Greenville Hyatt.

### S.C. Municipal Finance Officers, Clerks and Treasurers Association

■ **October 15-17**, will hold its Annual Meeting at the Greenville Hyatt.

### Community Builders

■ **October 23-24**, will hold its Annual Meeting in Newberry. See related article on page 4.

### S.C. Association of Stormwater Managers

■ **November 21**, will hold its Quarterly Meeting in Columbia.

### International Institute of Municipal Clerks

■ **January 28-30**, Region III Meeting will be held at Kingston Plantation in Myrtle Beach.

### Municipal Elected Officials Institute of Government

■ **February 17**, will hold Sessions A & B at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Columbia.

### MASC

■ **February 18**, will hold its Winter Meeting at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Columbia.

For more information about these meetings or other MASC meetings not listed, please call 803.799.9574, or visit our Web site at [www.masc.sc](http://www.masc.sc)



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