

GAPTP Newsletter
December 28, 2015



Fellow GAPTP Members,

I hope everyone is having a great holiday season, enjoying friends and family and re-charging the batteries. We have had a very eventful year in the property tax business and 2016 promises to bring more of the same. The challenges to our industry are numerous and we are gearing up for a very eventful legislative session this winter.

2015 Recap:

- GAPTP leadership turned over in the Spring of 2015 with the retirement of one of the founding members – Jeff Margarite.
- GAPTP members lunched with Lt Gov Casey Cagle and had an informative dialogue with him regarding issues that pertain to our industry and his perspective.
- The General Assembly passed HB 202 which was somewhat of a continuation of SB346 in regards to changes to specific property tax procedures; GAPTP monitored 202 throughout the process and inserted language in areas of the bill where we felt our interests were compromised or could be further advanced.
- The GAPTP Board welcomed new members Chris Boyer, Ryan & Co and Ivy Irwin, Paradigm Tax Service. They joined James Roberts, FSS&R and Paul Miller, Poer Co for the remainder of 2015 and moving forward into 2016.
- Sen Fran Millar, R- District 40, and others initiated discussion regarding the implementation of assessment caps as a ballot issue for the 2016 legislative session.
- Several board members met Sen Millar and others in regards to their ideas on assessment caps and other property tax related issues for 2016.
- GAPTP hosted a members luncheon where members were introduced and a summary of activity to date was presented as well as a general discussion held.
- The GAPTP board, through our legislative affairs consultant and counsel, has requested Jan meetings with organizations with similar interests in regards to reviewing possible legislation and possible coordinated efforts.

As these events occur, we will be in contact with the membership. Because 2016 is a statewide election year and, the Republican party has stated a strong need and desire for a populist ballot initiative, this legislative session will be huge in determining the future of our industry in this state and we must be prepared to support our positions and, ultimately, our livelihood.

I know that I speak for the entire GAPTP Board in saying thank you for being part of our group and have a very happy and safe remainder of the holiday!

James S. Roberts, Fellers, Schewe, Scott & Roberts