

I began my assessing career in 1996 when our county wanted to change to a CAMA system. The elderly local assessor in my township didn't want to learn how to operate one of those fancy micro-computers so they were looking for someone to fill his position. I had been a stay-at-home dad with a part-time job managing computer data from my home so I had experience with computers and the job was just what I needed at the time.

After 3 years as a local assessor, the County Assessor (a good high-school friend of mine) had an opening in the office and asked if I might be interested in joining the office full time. My kids were both in school by that time and so the full time position seemed like a good fit and I enjoyed the work.

I had been working in the office for 6 years when my boss thought it was a good idea to appoint a Deputy Assessor and I was his choice for the job. It took about 2 years to get it approved and to be appointed. On the day the County Commissioners officially appointed me the Deputy County Assessor my predecessor turned in his resignation effectively making me the County Assessor. Since that day I have served as the Martin County Assessor.

During the course of my career I've very much enjoyed getting to know assessors throughout the state through MAAO. I have served MAAO as Region 2 Secretary, Region 2 President, Region 2 Director, MAAO PVC Coordinator, Education instructor, a member of the Information Systems Committee, Legislative Committee, Education Committee, Education Steering Committee Chair, GIS/CAMA Committee, Residential Committee and MAAO Executive Officer - President. Some highlights for me have been representing Minnesota at the IAAO conference for 4 years during my time on the MAAO Executive Committee and having the opportunity to travel the state.

I've also been extremely active for over a decade on the Executive Board and numerous committees of the MnCCC - COOP. During my time serving MnCCC we have been helping to maintain and develop a new CAMA System, GIS products and Tax Court user groups on behalf of Minnesota counties.

In my free time I love to travel and my beautiful wife of almost 39 years has followed me all over the world. The highlights of our travel have been numerous short term mission trips to Romania along with mission trips to Congo, Africa and recent work in Mexico. I look forward to continued travel in my retirement. I am planning my first trip of retirement for the day after my last day on the job. We will be leaving for Mexico with my SUV packed to the roof with supplies for a church I work with in Mazatlán. I plan to stay there for about 2 months mixing mostly relaxation with a little work helping the poor (especially the kids) in the area.

I plan to continue working a little as a local in Southern Minnesota during retirement so hope to see many old friends in the future.