

ACCRTA



DECEMBER 2011

Mark your Calendars:

- New Clerk Orientation - January 11, 2012 at the AR Municipal League Convention from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Peabody in the Arkansas Room.
- AR Municipal League Convention, January 11 - 13, 2012, Little Rock AR
- District 4 Meeting - March 8 & 9, 2012, Beebe AR
- Municipal Clerk's Institute - September 16 - 21, 2012. Fayetteville AR

For IRS Information:

To stay current on any recent developments and for links to the archive of webinars presented and to find - **Tax Information for Federal, State, & Local Governments** go to:

www.irs.gov/govt/fslg/index.html

Federal, State, & Local Gov'ts Topics

- [About FSLG](#)
- [FSLG Newsletter](#)
- [FSLG Customer Services](#)
- [Educational Products](#)
- [FSLG Fact Sheets](#)
- [FSLG FAQs](#)
- [FSLG Toolkit](#)
- [FSLG Work Plan](#)
- [More Topics . .](#)

For information on the Affordable Healthcare Act, direct link:

<http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=220809,00.html?portlet=104>

Another way to access it is through www.irs.gov -- the Affordable Care Act is listed as a "hot topic" right in the middle of the landing page. Most cities are interested in the Form W-2 reporting. Go to the section titled, **Employer-Provided Health Coverage — Not Taxable; Reporting is Voluntary for All Employers for 2011 and Small Employers for 2012**. They will find links that will bring them to numerous links: Notices; Q & A; a video on W-2 reporting, etc.



Happy Holidays to All!!

Listserv Rules and Guidelines for AMLists

The Arkansas Municipal League established a listserv for municipal officials to provide a mechanism for addressing issues of common concern and to share and benefit from others' experiences. To make this a valuable experience for all members of the listserv, the League has developed some membership rules and guidelines. By joining and using the Arkansas Municipal League's listservs, you agree to read and follow these rules and guidelines. You also agree to reserve list discussions for topics best suited to the medium.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is limited to current municipal officials and employees. The AML verifies applications against our current database.

Identify your name, municipality, and position within all postings and responses.

A listing of listserv members will be made available to anyone interested.

USE

Only reply to the entire list if you have information from which everyone can benefit. If you want to reply to one person, **DO NOT hit the "REPLY" button**. This sends your message to everyone on the listserv. **You can respond to an individual by hitting "FORWARD" and placing the individual's e-mail address in the "TO" field.**

Fill in the subject line. This is for the benefit of receivers to identify the content of the messages in their inboxes. If you want to thank an individual for his/her answer, or wish someone well, or communicate one-on-one, please do so to the designated individual. Don't use the entire listing for these purposes. With a busy listserv plus other work-related e-mails that members receive, e-mail inboxes can get clogged.

Think of the listserv as an educational tool. It is a means of sharing information, documents, and past experiences about particular, municipal issues or problems. Please use it in the positive way it was intended---not as a forum for personal issues or agendas.

Please be aware that communications for a governmental purpose can be construed as public documents under the Freedom of Information Act. This is a responsibility that must be self-monitored. Be mindful of what you say. It could become part of the public domain.

Consider the size of a file before attaching it to a response. Large files (over 500K as a rule) should be avoided and made available on request.

If you are attempting to take attendance for a meeting directly related to the listserv, send your RSVP messages to the individual taking attendance, DO NOT reply to the entire list serv.

This listserv is for informational purposes only and, in no way, is to be construed as a public meeting of any singular governmental entity. Listserv members are encouraged to become familiar with the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act and be on notice that postings herein may be construed as public in nature. Further, no user or groups of users, whether from the same municipality or not, should in any way post messages that request votes or could be construed as polling for votes.

For More Information

For more information about the AMLists, contact Whitnee Bullerwell at wvb@arml.org or 501-374-3484, ext. 206.

A Different Short Christmas Story



A Tale We Can All Learn From



Ian came home from work late in the week before Christmas, tired and irritated, to find his 5-year old son waiting for him at the front door.

'Daddy, may I ask you a question?' said Jack.

'Yep sure, what it is?' replied Ian rather brusquely.

'Daddy, how much do you earn in an hour?'

'That's none of your business. Why do you ask such a thing?' Ian responded angrily.

'I just need to know. Please tell me, how much do you make an hour?' pleaded Jack.

'If you must know, Jack, I make \$25 an hour,' answered his father.

'Oh,' the Jack replied, with his head down.

'Daddy, may I please borrow \$10?' added Jack nervously.

Ian became was furious, 'If the only reason you asked that is so you can borrow some money to buy a silly toy for Christmas or some other nonsense, then you march yourself straight to your room and go to bed. Think about why you are being so selfish. I don't work hard every day for such childish frivolities.'

Jack quietly went to his room and shut the door.

Ian sat down and started to get even angrier about Jack's questions. How dare he ask such questions only to get some money?

After about an hour or so, Ian had calmed down, and started to think. Maybe there was something he really needed to buy with that \$10.00 and he really didn't ask for money very often. The man went to the door of his son's room and opened the door.

'Are you asleep, son?' Ian asked quietly.

'No daddy, I'm awake,' replied Jack.

'I've been thinking, maybe I was too hard on you earlier,' said Ian. 'It's been a long day and I took out my aggravation on you. Here's the \$10.00 you asked for.'

Jack sat straight up, smiling. 'Oh, thank you daddy,' he cried. Then, reaching under his pillow he pulled out some crumpled up bills.

Ian saw that the boy already had money, started to get angry again.

The little boy slowly counted out his money, and then looked up at his father with his large brown eyes.

'Why do you want more money if you already have some?' Ian grumbled.

'Because I didn't have enough, but now I do,' the little boy replied. 'Daddy, I have \$25 now. Can I buy an hour of your time? Please come home early on Christmas Eve so I can to have dinner with you.'

Ian was crushed. He put his arms around his little son, and he begged for his forgiveness.

It's just a short reminder to all of you working so hard in life. We should not let time slip through our fingers without having spent some time with those who really matter to us, those close to our hearts.

Do remember to share that \$25 worth of your time with someone you love.