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Connections

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Dennis Crawford, ATA-R
ATA President

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving enjoying family, friends and of course...football! It's so hard to believe that Christmas and the New Year are only a few weeks away. I know it is close

as I peek out the window and see Christmas lights going up all over our shrubs and trees. I may even go outside and help my wife put them up if I get this newsletter finished in time.

I am very fortunate and excited to serve as your ATA President which has afforded me the opportunity to travel to different regions of our great state. This has enabled me to visit the many diverse markets our ATA members practice in and to hear the challenges they are faced with. Whether it is a market experiencing an oil boom to a bust or from floods to extreme droughts, we are all faced with our unique challenges and must stay informed to develop a credible report in these changing markets. ATA will be there with you.

I'm very excited about the upcoming New Year for Appraisers and ATA. ATA will be offering more venues for Appraisers and Realtors in parts of Texas where we have not been before, but will be soon, such as El Paso. El Paso is located so far west that most Appraisers have to travel to New Mexico for their CE classes. I can't imagine having to leave my state to get continuing education where regulations and markets may not apply to my market or

comply with my state's regulations. Anyway El Paso, here we come.

Another exciting thing that the upcoming New Year will bring is that VA panel appraisers will receive a long overdue fee increase effective January 1, 2016. Yes, you read it right. In an email dated November 24, 2015, VA announced that they will increase the standard appraisal fee from \$400.00 to \$475.00. The \$75.00 increase also applies to Duplex, Triplex, 4plex and Condo appraisal reports. The original effective date was December 1, 2015, but it got pushed back one month.

Since the last ATA Connections newsletter, ATA held a meeting in Fort Worth on September 25-26th at the Hampton Inn and Suites. "Fannie Mae CU and You" and "Home Measurement Basics" were the courses offered and the Speaker was John Dingeman. John is an excellent Speaker from Roseville, CA and has been a featured speaker at previous ATA meetings. John also serves as Vice President of NAA.

Another exciting event for ATA was our participation at the Appraisal Summit & Expo which was hosted by the National Association of Appraisers (NAA) on November 17th and 18th in Las Vegas. ATA sits on the Board of Governors of NAA and I was proud to represent ATA during the State Appraisal Organization Leadership Forum meeting on the first day of the Appraisal Summit.

The first of many topics discussed were problems with the AQB's requirements of a four year degree to become a certified

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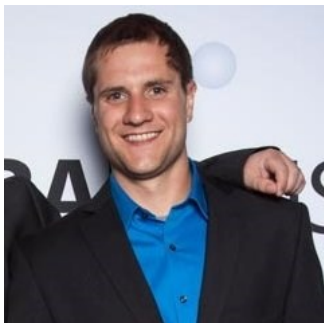
Upcoming Industry Meetings:

- Jan. 29—APB Public Meeting, Las Vegas, NV
- Feb. 18—IAC Meeting, Tampa, FL
- Feb. 19-20—ATA Mid-Year Meeting, New Braunfels, TX
- Mar. 3-4—TAFAC Meeting, Washington, DC
- March 10-11—ATA El Paso Meeting
- April 1-2—ATA Rio Grande Valley Meeting
- Apr. 8—AQB Public Meeting, Phoenix, AZ
- April 8-10—AARO Spring Meeting, Phoenix, AZ
- May 12—NACAO, Naples, FL
- June 17-18—ATA Houston Area Meeting
- Aug. 5-6—ATA Annual Meeting, Austin, TX

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Appraiser Shortage—Zach Bodack



As thousands of appraisers are getting ready for retirement, many professionals within the mortgage

industry are beginning to wonder who's going to take their place. When comparing the number of upcoming retirees to those expected to join the appraiser workforce, there is no comparison, raising many red flags with all involved in the industry.

According to both National Mortgage News and Valuation Review, the Appraisal Institute has estimated that the number of residential appraisers in the U.S. has already declined by roughly 28% (23,000) since 2007. In addition, it has also been estimated that approximately 30% (61,000) of the certified and licensed residential appraisers in the country are no longer practicing – with another 20-30% contemplating retirement.

To help defuse this growing problem, the Appraisal Foundation has begun reaching out to anyone and everyone they can to try to bring more individuals into the world of appraising. They are hoping to sway these individuals with their new “Fast Facts for Future Appraisers” infographic, which is designed to be a helpful guide for those considering a career within the appraisal profession.

The infographic itself is divided into five subsections that are designed to grab the attention and interest of new or potential prospects, and provides explanations relating to the many job opportunities that await future appraisers.

The first subsection emphasizes the fact that appraisers can literally work across the country and are always in demand. The second subsection talks about the average salaries that appraisers can expect, as well as the numerous factors that lead to those figures – geography, experience, and specialization. The third subsection speaks of the diversity factor and points out that appraisers can value more than just properties and homes – using sports memorabilia, art, and antiques as further examples.

The fourth subsection speaks of the growing technological advancements that have been made within the appraisal industry over the last few years—such as mobile applications, advanced software, and electronic measurement apparatuses—to try to lure those with an interest in technology to the profession. To conclude the infographic, the fifth and final subsection highlights the amount of flexibility appraisers have with their schedules, which has promoted many entrepreneurial opportunities in the past.

The Appraisal Foundation is hopeful that its new infographic can help spur some much needed growth within the industry. However, with nearly 6 in 10 appraisers being more than 50 years old, and only 11% aged 35 or younger, time is slowly running out to correct this clear imbalance.

To view the new “Fast Facts for Future Appraisers” infographic, check out the Appraisal Foundation’s website at www.appraisalfoundation.org.

Zach Bodack is the Marketing Coordinator for Global DMS (the mortgage industry’s leading provider of commercial and residential real estate valuation solutions -- catering to lenders, AMCs, appraisers, and other real estate entities) and he is responsible for: lead management; maintaining the company’s social networking sites; writing blogs for the company website; maintaining and updating the website; producing mass-emails to send to both clients and prospects; creating news releases, whitepapers, brochures, and newsletters; coordinating pre-tradeshaw activities, such as company/employee registration and the ordering of all materials; and editing all marketing collateral.

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Sources:

Appraisal Foundation – www.appraisalfoundation.org
Valuation Review – www.valuationreview.com
National Mortgage News – www.nationalmortgagenews.com

