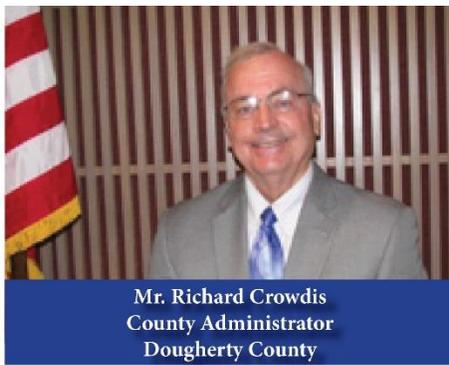




Historical Recollections

Hello! We are current members of GCCMA that you may recognize. During the 60th Anniversary, we thought it would be great to “take a journey back to 1956,” give our former selves advice, and express how impactful GCCMA has been to our careers and growth in public service.



NUMBER OF YEARS IN GCCMA: Since 1975

How has GCCMA Impacted your career?

"I first joined GCCMA when I was working on my MPA at Georgia Southern College in 1975. My oldest brother, Jimmy, was the Assistant City Manager for the City of Rome and he introduced me at the Annual Conferences. The Association provided an active network of City/County Managers, Assistant Managers and other professionals that were eager to share their experience, wisdom, and friendship with an aspiring young MPA student. The training and relationships from this membership has continued to assist me throughout my career."

Looking back, what advice would you give your younger self in regards to City/County Management?

"Leave the briefcase full of work at the office and work on more balance in your life."

What was your profession during the Year of 1956? Or, if you could time travel to 1956, what is the first thing you would do?

"Since I was seven (7) years old in 1956, I would like to go back and watch the New York Yankees play baseball even on the black/white TV."

What is your favorite aspect about working in public service?

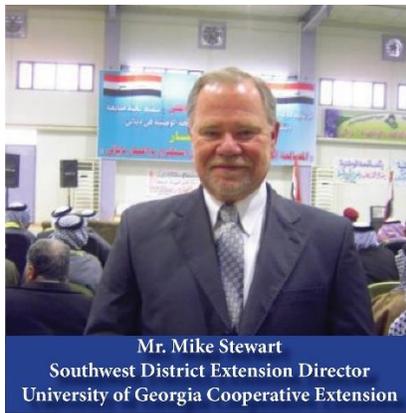
"My work is never boring. You meet interesting people and fortunately you are in a position to help citizens."

Why should managers/administrators get involved with GCCMA?

"You will meet and develop many friendships with other like-minded professionals during your years in local government. These relationships will continually benefit you in your City or County position through collaboration on hot issues. You will also obtain timely information and receive 2nd and 3rd opinions on local concerns. GCCMA conferences will also provide you with unmatched training and information from the Carl Vinson Institute of Government."

When you first joined GCCMA, who in the organization mentored or influenced you?

"There have been many managers over the years that I have benefited from meeting, observing and absorbing some of their knowledge and experience. The first and foremost would be my older brother, Jimmy, who was the Assistant City Manager of Rome and later the City Manager of Dublin. He facilitated my interest in local government. Other influences from former members were Don Mendonsa (Savannah), Charlie Tyson (Moultrie/Bainbridge), Dick Bolin (Newnan), Bob Roberson (Moultrie) and Dick McCullough (Floyd County). I would also have to include in this group the former Director of CVIOG, Hal Holtz, and one of its finest former associates, Kitty Clarke."



NUMBER OF YEARS IN GCCMA: Since 1986

How has GCCMA Impacted your career?

"GCCMA allowed me to build a network of professionals and friends that I have been able to call on for assistance. While at ACCG I was able to provide help to many colleagues and pay it forward. I always enjoyed the meetings, the camaraderie and professional development."

Looking back, what advice would you give your younger self in regards to City/County Management?

"Don't get so stressed out. Plan better. Don't be so serious. Just do the best you can, work hard and it will all work out. Take time off and spend it with family."

What is your favorite aspect about working in public service?

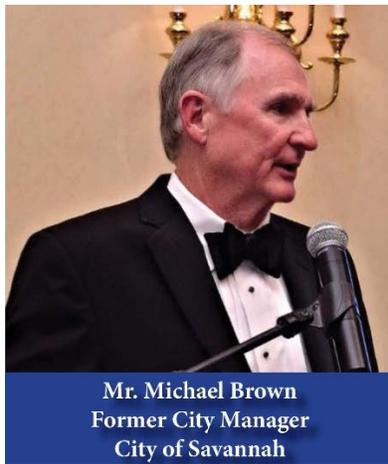
"Seeing things get done, making things better. Seeing tangible projects that make a difference develop. Being a mentor and helping others. Service to the community and to the greater good."

Why should managers/administrators get involved with GCCMA?

"It is a great opportunity to build a network of professional advisers and friends who share common interests, challenges and opportunities."

When you first joined GCCMA, who in the organization mentored or influenced you?

"Stan Gambrell, Billy Edwards, Bob Roberson, and Alan Reddish"



Mr. Michael Brown
Former City Manager
City of Savannah

NUMBER OF YEARS IN GCCMA: Since 1987

How has being a member of GCCMA Impacted Your Career?

"It provides direct information about what is going on in communities around the state."

Looking back, what advice would you give your younger self in regards to City/County Management?

"First, learn and improve political skills and then, enhance technical skills"

What is your favorite aspect about working in public service?

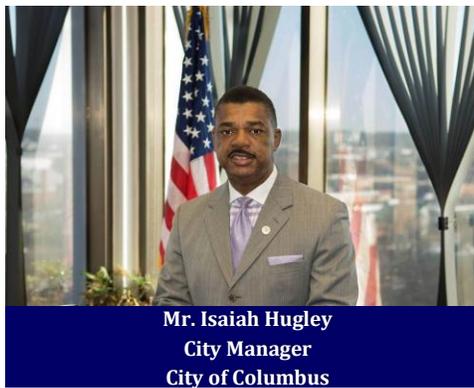
"I enjoyed managing high quality services and improving infrastructure"

Why should managers/administrators get involved with GCCMA?

"They should improve their survival rates!"

When you first joined GCCMA, who in the organization mentored or influence you?

"Don Mendonsa, Curtis Branscombe, and Jim Burgess."



Mr. Isaiah Hugley
City Manager
City of Columbus

NUMBER OF YEARS IN GCCMA: Since 1998

How has being a member of GCCMA Impacted Your Career?

“The networking opportunities, mentorship, advice, sharing of ideas and information, and the education/training opportunities offered by GCCMA have been immeasurable and contributed to a successful and enjoyable career for me.”

Looking back, what advice would you give your younger self in regards to City/County Management?

“Do as you did and complete your education in public administration; find an internship in local government to get a feel for local government; become a member of a city/county managers association and network within the association to establish relationships. Be available, be visible and work hard.”

What was your profession during the Year of 1956? Or, if you could time travel to 1956, what is the first thing you would do?

“If I could time travel to 1956, I would grow up and become City Manager of Columbus, Georgia.”

What is your favorite aspect about working in public service?

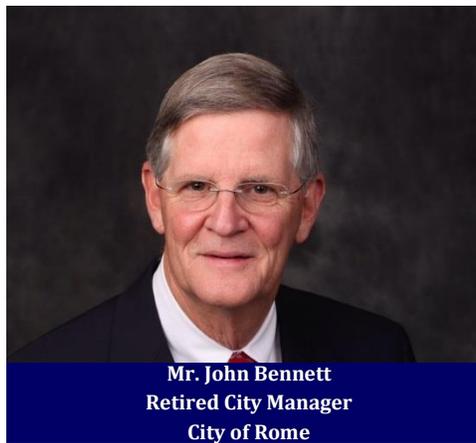
“The incredible honor to work each and every day making a difference in the quality of life of the people of my community. It is great to hear citizens say, “Thanks for what you do for our City”.

Why should managers/administrators get involved with GCCMA?

“Because of all of the reasons stated in #1 above, the networking opportunities, mentorship, advice, sharing of ideas and information, and the education/training opportunities offered by GCCMA.”

When you first joined GCCMA, who in the organization mentored or influence you?

“Alan Reddish, Carter Crawford, and Larry Hanson.”



NUMBER OF YEARS IN GCCMA: Since 1983

How has being a member of GCCMA Impacted Your Career?

"When I first started I was an Assistant City Manager and Al Crace encouraged me to get involved. At my first GCCMA Conference, I saw how professional the group was and liked the camaraderie. In the early days it was really just a group of City Managers....not the Assistant City Managers and there were very few County Managers involved."

Looking back, what advice would you give your younger self in regards to City/County Management?

"Work less. Know what fires to put out and what fires to let burn out."

What was your profession during the year of 1956 or if you could time travel to 1956, what is the first thing you would do?

"In 1956, I was an Assistant City Manager."

What is your favorite aspect about working in public service?

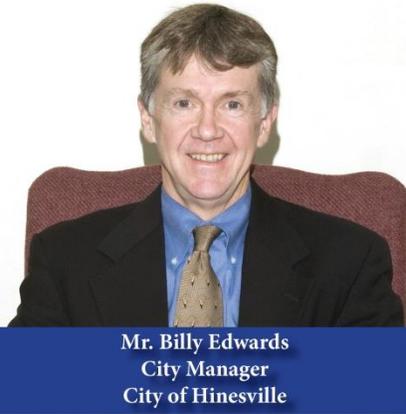
"Watching people develop and grow in the organization. Having an engineering background, I like to see projects get built like water, sewer, roads, and sidewalks. It is nice to see projects that you worked on that have a positive impact in the community."

Why should managers/administrators get involved with GCCMA?

"To have a change of scenery and be exposed to new topics. To get to know others and be able to see that other managers have the same issues that they do. The City Manager doesn't have a counterpart in their own city to talk to so they need to get involved in GCCMA to build relationships with other managers and to be able to network."

When you first joined GCCMA, who in the organization mentored or influence you?

"Al Crace, Hal Holtz, Curtis Branscome, Bucky Hayes, Charlie Tyson, Dudley Courson, and Clarence Bryant."



Mr. Billy Edwards
City Manager
City of Hinesville

NUMBER OF YEARS IN GCCMA: Since 1981

How has being a member of GCCMA Impacted Your Career?

"Through GCCMA, I have been provided a wealth of knowledge, insight and exposure."

Looking back, what advice would you give your younger self in regards to City/County Management?

"Get involved early and stay plugged in."

What was your profession during the year of 1956 or if you could time travel to 1956, what is the first thing you would do?

"I was 2 years old. I would ask for something to eat and if I could go outside to play with my dog named 'Poochie'!"

What is your favorite aspect about working in public service?

"The ability to make positive changes or improvements to my community."

Why should managers/administrators get involved with GCCMA?

"It is a shortcut to wisdom."

When you first joined GCCMA, who in the organization mentored or influence you?

"Charlie Tyson, Wilbur Avers, Dick Bolton, and Charlie Howell."