

Schmidt named president of Treasurer's Association

ELIZABETH STUDEBAKER

Feature Writer

The County Treasurer's Association of Ohio today announced the election of Greene County Treasurer James W. **Schmidt**, CPA, as president of the Association for 2008.

"Jim was elected to this position with a great deal of confidence in his abilities," Tom Steenrod, CTAO executive director, said. "The association believes his experience and expertise establish him as a most capable individual to lead the association," he continued.

Schmidt has served as treasurer, secretary and vice president of the association and continues to serve on the Legislative Committee. The County Treasurer's Association was established in 1924 to promote and protect the interest of taxpayers, to introduce and promote legislation for the benefit of all Ohio residents, and for the better administration of treasurer's offices. "I am honored to have been chosen by the County Treasurer's Association to be its next president," **Schmidt** said.

"I've devoted my career to serving as Greene County's chief investment officer, promoting the concept of the efficient management of my office and safeguarding local funds. Being the local tax collector is not an easy or popular position, but it's essential to our system of government. I'm looking forward to the challenges and rewards that leading the association will bring to Greene County, to working with its members and with other State leaders, and to recognize the considerable responsibilities and increasing expectations that county treasurers in all 88 counties face each day."

As the longest serving treasurer in the history of Greene County **Schmidt** brings a wealth of experience to the office. He is an attorney and a certified public accountant, having received his degree in accounting from Miami University, Oxford. He earned a law degree from Stetson University College of Law and his masters of law degree from the University of Missouri. **Schmidt** was appointed to the office of Greene County treasurer in 1983. "Since then," he remarked, "the office has weathered budget highs and lows, but the quality of service provided has not waned."

As treasurer, **Schmidt** is responsible for the collection of over \$ 200 million and investment of \$89 million dollars in 2008 and has earned more than \$4 million for Greene County since January. Prior to becoming 37th Greene County treasurer, his career included time in private practice. He has been an acting judge in Xenia

Municipal Court, City of Xenia prosecutor, referee in Domestic Relations Court, a licensed real estate broker, real estate appraiser and adjunct professor of real estate law and general business at Sinclair Community College. **Schmidt** is a member of the Ohio Society of CPA's, The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, past president of the Greene County Bar, member of the Ohio Government Finance Officer's Association, plus a number of local civic and fraternal organizations.

Schmidt was born in Xenia, the son of William E. (Bud) and Virginia **Schmidt**. He and Suzanne, his wife of 22 years, have one daughter Katherine, a student at Miami University. He served in the U. S. Army Infantry in Vietnam, receiving a Bronze Star, an Army Commendation Medal with Oakleaf Cluster, and a Combat Infantry Badge.