

Regional News – February 22, 2013

Tidbits

2013 Standing Committee Vacancies

Each of AAMVA's three standing committees have vacancies beginning September 2013. If you are interested in applying for membership, please download the Committee Member Application.

- The Driver Standing Committee is seeking an information technology representative and a public affairs and consumer education (PACE) representative from any of AAMVA's four regions.
- The Enforcement Standing Committee is seeking two law enforcement representatives - one from Region I and one from Region III. These applicants must be sworn law enforcement officers.
- The Vehicle Standing Committee is seeking an information technology representative and a public affairs and consumer education (PACE) representative from any of AAMVA's four regions. The Vehicle Standing Committee is also seeking a vehicle representative from Region III.

All terms are for two years beginning September 2013 and ending August 2015. Download the [Committee Member Application](#). Applications must be received by **August 1, 2013**. If you have questions, please contact Dianne Graham, director, Member & Conference Services via email dgraham@aamva.org or phone (703) 908-8267. For more information, see <http://www.aamva.org/Committees-and-Working-Groups/>.

Test Maintenance Subcommittee Looking for Members

The Test Maintenance Subcommittee (TMS) is a permanent AAMVA Subcommittee which is directly responsible for developing, maintaining and distributing new and revised model driver's license testing systems (CDL, noncommercial and motorcycle) to the AAMVA Member Jurisdictions. AAMVA is seeking one jurisdictional representative from Region I and one from Region III. Subcommittee applicants must be well versed in all aspects of commercial and noncommercial knowledge skills/drivers test administration; and shall have as part of their job responsibilities, driver licensing test development or administration activities. TMS will meet face to face at least twice a year, as well as via conference call or webinar as the work load requires. Applicants are required to attend and actively participate in all Subcommittee meetings, assist in all Subcommittee activities; and be the liaison between the AAMVA jurisdictions in your Region and the Subcommittee on licensing issues. The selected applicant must be able to serve a four (4) year term. Interested applicants must complete the [Test Maintenance Subcommittee Member Application Form](#) and return it via email to Dianne Graham at committees@aamva.org no later than **February 28, 2013**. For more information, see <http://www.aamva.org/Committees-and-Working-Groups/>

New Contact Information for Regional Director Regions I & II

Patrice Aasmo will be taking over the post of Regional Director for Regions I & II beginning Monday, February 25, 2013. Her new contact information is:

Patrice Aasmo
Director, Member Support Regions I & II
AAMVA
1305 E. Lee Road
Sterling, Virginia 20164
T: 571-435-2861
paasmo@aamva.org

New Director at Maine BMV

Patty A. Morneault, Director of Driver License Services has been appointed Deputy Secretary of State for the Maine Bureau of Motor Vehicles by the Honorable Matthew Dunlap, Secretary of State. Ms. Morneault brings to the job 23 years of motor vehicle experience and detailed knowledge of the bureau's operations. She holds a Bachelor's of Science degree in Business Administration. Her management philosophy will build upon staff support and public trust in the services the agency delivers to the citizens and businesses of the state. She will be sworn in on Monday, February 25. Best of luck in your new position!

Celebrate With Us as AAMVA Turns 80

In 80 years, both AAMVA as an organization, and the industry and profession that the association serves have seen dramatic change and evolution. Many great people along the way have provided thankless leadership and guidance. Throughout the year, AAMVA plans to recognize these facts and more. Visitors to AAMVA's Web site may have already noticed the background image of a banquet from an AAMVA conference in 1951. AAMVA will also be using the 80th Anniversary badge in various communications in celebration of this historical event. AAMVA's web site will feature several anniversary-related items at <http://www.aamva.org/aamva-80th-anniversary/>. AAMVA invites you to check the site regularly for your AAMVA history "fix" throughout the year. If you will be attending any of AAMVA's annual conferences, be sure to stop by the AAMVA booth and check out some of the relics the association has collected throughout the years. We welcome comments, stories, and historical facts from the motor vehicle administrator community. Send relevant information to Communications@aamva.org.

Do you have a news item you'd like to include in next week's Regional News? Send news tips and articles to Claire O'Brien at cobrien@aamva.org.

Region I News

DMV Commissioner: Blanket Vehicle Inspections Not Needed (Connecticut)

Connecticut's Department of Motor Vehicles commissioner says she plans to see whether the state's emissions testing vendor might be willing to also conduct cursory safety checks of the vehicles it tests. But Commissioner Melody Currey told the General Assembly's Transportation Committee Wednesday that proposed new vehicle inspections, including one for vehicles with more than 100,000 miles, are unnecessary. Currey said the emissions vendor might be able to check for things such as seat belts and wiper blades, but she does not favor increasing fees to conduct such a review. [Read the full story on CBS Connecticut.](#)

Lawmakers Want Shorter Lines at the DMV (Connecticut)

What's more annoying than an endless line at the Department of Motor Vehicles? Well, if you're the department's commissioner, it might be appearing before a legislative committee that wants to know why the wait at the DMV is always so long. "That's probably one of the sources of great consternation to the general public that we all hear about," said Sen. Antonietta Boucher, R-Wilton, ranking member of the legislative Transportation Committee. "No matter what leadership or administration it might be, it's always the brunt of a lot of jokes, as you well know. If you could make that information available it would be greatly appreciated. If that was publicly available I think if you show a trend line that's positive for the department, it would be a good-news story." Commissioner Melody A. Currey, a former longtime House member, seemed to take the heat in stride on Wednesday as the committee discussed a proposal that would require the agency to publicly report the wait times at DMV branches. [Read the full story in the Connecticut Post.](#)

Gas Tax Proposals Pushed in Maryland

A Maryland Senate panel on Wednesday considered proposals to raise money for the state's nearly bankrupt transportation fund, including one from the Senate president that would levy a sales tax on gasoline, allow counties to create their own gas taxes and create regional transit authorities that could raise property taxes in Baltimore City and Montgomery and Prince George's counties. Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr., D-Prince George's and Calvert counties, called his measure a "menu of options" but insisted that Gov. Martin O'Malley needs to take leadership on a solution to fund roads, bridges and rail projects. [Read the full story in the Washington Examiner.](#)

DMV Warns of Unofficial License Renewal Websites (New Hampshire)

Granite State residents renewing their driver licenses online should take care to ensure the site they are on is "An Official State of New Hampshire Government Website" (located at the top right-hand corner of the site) and avoid unofficial sites that charge extra fees, DMV Director Richard C. Bailey Jr. said Monday. "People should be sure to enter the exact web address that is listed on their renewal notification letter in the web address line, not on a search line," Bailey said. "If they do a web search to find it they might not reach the official DMV site." To reach the New Hampshire DMV, go to: www.dmv.nh.gov. [Read the full article in the Bedford Patch.](#)

New Kiosk Expedites Driver's License Needs (New Jersey)

The Dyer County Driver's License office has been closed for nearly two months and while many drivers have made the long trek to Union City or Trenton for their driver's license needs, there is a little-known option right here in Dyersburg that drivers can use. Prior to the driver's license office on James H. Rice Road closing at the end of last year, Commissioner Bill Gibbons and Assistant Commissioner Lori Bullard of the Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security met with Dyer County Mayor Richard Hill, Dyer County Clerk Diane Moore and State Rep. Bill Sanderson in October to discuss the installation of a kiosk at the Dyer County Clerk's Office that would help residents with some of the tasks they would normally visit a driver's license office for. "If you are already in the system, the kiosk will be able to address your needs," said Bullard during their meeting in October. The kiosk has been operational since Jan. 1 and has been a huge success according to Moore. The kiosk is able to issue a duplicate license in the event that you lose your license or if it is stolen and process a renewal if it's not too far expired. The kiosk cannot administer exams or process license transfers from another state; drivers will have to visit the license centers in Union City and Trenton for those tasks. [Read the full article in the State Gazette.](#)

New Jersey DMV Refuses to Let Pastafarian Take Driver's License Photo with Spaghetti Strainer on His Head

A devout member of the Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster had the cops called on him by employees at a Dayton, New Jersey, Motor Vehicle Commission facility after he demanded to be allowed to wear a pasta strainer on his head for his driver's license photo. 25-year-old Aaron Williams, a practitioner of the mostly satirical anti-creationism "religion" of Pastafarianism, says he was told that motor vehicle policy prohibited the wearing of head coverings in license photos excepting those worn for religious reasons. "I take it as seriously as anybody else when it comes to religious beliefs," he later told NJ.com. Speaking with GallowayPatch, Williams added: "As a Pastafarian, I believe the universe was created by a Flying Spaghetti Monster. The strainer is a showing of my devoutness to the religion." Williams was informed that pasta strainers were not covered by the MVC's religious clothing policy, and he would need to take it up with the state. A South Brunswick Police officer at the scene also tried to talk Williams out of his protest, and was ultimately successful. [Read the full story on gawker.com.](#)

[Number of Cars Damaged in Hurricane Sandy Exceeds 250,000 \(New York\)](#)

Nearly four months after Hurricane Sandy, the total number of cars damaged in the storm has now past the 250,000 mark, according to preliminary numbers released by the National Insurance Crime Bureau. The NICB's numbers are based on Sandy-related claims made to its member insurance companies. NICB member companies make up 88 percent of auto insurance available in the United States. [Read the full article in the NY Daily News.](#)

Region II News

[Birthday Tax to Disappear on Vehicles Purchased after March 1 \(Georgia\)](#)

A new law that changes the way motor vehicles are taxed in Georgia will go into effect on March 1, 2013. Motor vehicles purchased on or after March 1, 2013 and titled in this state will be exempt from sales and use tax and the annual ad valorem tax, also known as the "birthday tax". These taxes will be replaced by a one-time tax that is imposed at the time the vehicle is titled on the fair market value of the vehicle called the title ad valorem tax ("TAVT"). For the first year of the TAVT, the rate will be 6.5% of the fair market value as identified by the Georgia Motor Vehicle Assessment Manual. The TAVT is applicable to dealer and casual sales but excludes non-titled vehicles such as trailers and other non-motorized vehicles which will remain subject to ad valorem tax. [Read the full story at *etax.dor.ga.gov*](#)

[Department of Driver Services \(DDS\) Unveils New Veterans Licenses/IDs \(Georgia\)](#)

Department of Driver Services (DDS) unveiled today a new design for Veterans Driver Licenses and State Identification Cards to support Georgia's troops. Additional graphics have been added to evoke patriotism and honor those veteran servicemen and women who carry it. "This is a well-deserved acknowledgement by our state which has the fourth largest number of combat veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan," said Commissioner Rob Mikell. "Georgia's veterans deserve all the acknowledgement we can bestow," he added. Mikell revealed the new card design in front of the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Statue at Pete Wheeler Georgia War Veteran Memorial Plaza in Atlanta today. He presented several special guests with their new Veterans Licenses including Commissioner Pete Wheeler, Department of Veterans Service, Holly Springs Police Officer Shane Ladner and several DDS team members. [Read more at *dds.ga.gov*.](#)

[New North Carolina Driver's Licenses Will Flag Non-U.S. Citizens](#)

Newly designed North Carolina driver's licenses coming this summer will be used to distinguish people who are not U.S. citizens, a measure that state transportation officials describe as a safeguard against voter fraud and civil-rights advocates describe as an avenue for discrimination. Already in the works is a license that will be issued starting March 25 to one class of non-U.S. citizen: recipients of the federal program implemented by President Barack Obama in August to give a two-year reprieve from deportation for immigrants who meet certain conditions, mostly those brought into the U.S. illegally by their parents. [Read the full story in the *Winston-Salem Journal*.](#)

[Pink Stripe on North Carolina Illegal Immigrant Licenses Eyed](#)

A new North Carolina driver's license set to be issued to some illegal immigrants has a bright pink stripe and the bold words "NO LAWFUL STATUS," raising concerns about whether the design will brand those who show it. The North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles announced last week they would begin issuing the licenses March 25 following a lengthy legal review. The Obama administration's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program grants valid federal work permits to qualified applicants brought to the U.S. as children without legal authorization. Some Republican lawmakers in the state have balked at the idea, filing a bill Thursday to bar the DMV from granting the licenses until at least June. [Read the full article on *officer.com*](#)

Virginians taking Advantage of DMV-DGIF Partnership One-Stop Shopping Convenient for Thousands in First Year

Since Governor Bob McDonnell announced the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) partnership just over one year ago, thousands of Virginians have taken advantage of the one-stop shopping for government services. Customers can now register boats and boat trailers and purchase hunting and fishing licenses in one trip to either agency. In September 2012, the partnership expanded to some of Virginia's 57 DMV Select locations. DMV Selects are local governments and private entities that conduct select DMV transactions. Three offer temporary boat registrations; 29 sell hunting and fishing licenses. Since January 2012, more than 500 temporary boat registrations and more than 3,700 hunting and fishing licenses were issued through DMV service channels. DMV collected more than 6,700 boat title/registration applications for DGIF. More than 1,100 boat trailer transactions were processed at DGIF on behalf of DMV. [Read more at dmv.state.virginia.us](http://dmv.state.virginia.us).

West Virginia Bill Proposes Hatfield-McCoy License Plates

They've been satirized by Mark Twain, mythologized on a hugely successful mini-series, and if a newly proposed bill passes the West Virginia legislature, the Hatfield and McCoy families will be immortalized on state specialty license plates. The bill proposed this week would create specialty license plates reading "Hatfield and McCoy Country." They would be at least the 59th variety of specialty license plates available in West Virginia. The plates would be available for a \$15 annual fee that would help fund the state road fund. [Read the full article in the Herald-Dispatch](#).

Region III News

DMV.us.org To Include Legit Arrests and Criminal Charges in Their Public Records Reports (Illinois)

DMV.us.org is expanding the scope of their driving records reports to include arrests and criminal charges associated with the vehicle stop, company officials said yesterday. "We've realized that just providing the traffic records on their own often doesn't tell the whole story," said a company representative. "Often there are other charges that are brought up, which people have a right to know about." Many people search DMV.us.org when doing a background check on a potential employee to determine if they are a good driver, the company said, but don't consider the other elements involved in a traffic stop. [Read the full article on prweb.com](#).

Iowa Traffic Camera Revenue Could Go To State Instead Of Cities

More legislation in Iowa is targeting the controversial red light and speed cameras. Lawmakers are considering a bill that would have cities that have the cameras send the revenue to the state's road fund. It was just approved by a House sub-committee. Davenport and Muscatine have the cameras and officials say they keep roads safe and free up officers. Revenue from tickets in Davenport goes toward traffic enforcement and overtime at the police department. "The problem for us would be to continue to pay these people to run the program, but not have the benefit of the funds that it's generating," said Chief Frank Donchez. [Read more at kwqc.com](http://kwqc.com)

State Begins to Issue Limited-Term Driver's Licenses (Michigan)

Michigan begins to make driver's licenses available today to undocumented immigrants who were brought to this country as children. The new rules apply to people who qualify under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals. Under these new rules other people will also be able to take advantage of these limited-term licenses, including international students and workers. Listen to the full interview

with Gisgic Gendreau, Communications Director for the Michigan Department of State. [See the full article on michiganradio.org](#)

Audit Finds Common Misuse of Minnesota Driver Data

Eighty-eight law enforcement personnel misused their access to driver's license records in the last fiscal year, state auditors said Wednesday in a wide-ranging report pushing for better oversight of the database. The review by the state's legislative auditor - highly anticipated by legislators and privacy advocates - said officers need better training in allowed uses of the protected data, and local and state agencies should do more to monitor use. Beyond 88 incidents of misuse documented in state records last year, auditors found even more suspicious activity buried in audit trails. More than half of the 11,000 law enforcement users of the Driver and Vehicle Services (DVS) website in that time frame queried themselves or people with the same last name, for example, or disproportionately searched for people of one sex. Auditors forwarded 78 names to DVS for further review. [Read the full article in the Star Tribune.](#)

North Dakota House Rejects Seat Belt Bill

Lawmakers in the North Dakota House killed a bill Thursday that would allow law enforcement to ticket a driver or passenger for not wearing a seat belt. After more than 25 minutes of debate, House Bill 1335 was defeated by a 52-40 vote. Rep. Robin Weisz, R-Hurdsfield, said HB1335 would allow law enforcement to ticket a driver or front-seat passenger for not wearing a seat belt without any other traffic offense having taken place. Ticketing a driver without a previous traffic offense is known as a primary seat belt law. North Dakota is one of 17 states with secondary seat belt laws, which require drivers to be pulled over for another traffic offense before they can be ticketed for not wearing a seat belt. [Read more in the Bismarck Tribune.](#)

Region IV News

ADOT Has an Online Tool to Provide Vehicle Tax Details (Arizona)

Now that tax season is here, EZ Vehicle Fee Recap is once again available from the Arizona Department of Transportation's Motor Vehicle Division to help you prepare your 2012 income tax return. The free EZ Vehicle Fee Recap Program allows Arizona vehicle owners to view their own report of registration fees and taxes paid in the prior calendar year. While vehicle owners are advised to consult with a tax-preparation professional or seek guidance from the Internal Revenue Service or Arizona Department of Revenue, the EZ Vehicle Fee Recap Program provides a simple report of registration fees that can be viewed or printed. To begin the easy process, the user just has to enter their name, Arizona driver license or customer identification number and follow the screen prompts. [Read more at azdot.gov.](#)

Brewer Seeks to Keep Her Driver's License Policy (Arizona)

Lawyers for Gov. Jan Brewer are urging a judge to reject a request to block Arizona from enforcing the governor's order that denies driver's licenses for young immigrants who have gotten work permits and avoided deportation under a new Obama administration policy.

A lawsuit by immigrant rights advocates asks a judge to declare Brewer's policy unconstitutional on the grounds it's trumped by federal law and alleges the policy makes it difficult or impossible for such young immigrants to go to school, grocery stores and hold down a job. [Read the full article on myfoxphoenix.com](#)

Bill Would Clarify DUI Laws for Pharmaceuticals, Pot (California)

A bill aimed at clarifying California's laws on driving under the influence of controlled substances other than alcohol has been introduced in the state senate. Sen. Lou Correa (D-Santa Ana) said he wants to create better tools for prosecuting drivers under the influence of drugs. Senate Bill 289 would exclude drivers with controlled substances in their blood if they have a prescription -- and are using the medication in accordance with that prescription, said Damon Conklin, press secretary for Correa's office. [Read the full article on nbclosangeles.com](#)

Hundreds of Illegal Licenses Granted in DMV Scam (California)

Do you ever wonder about those drivers who cut you off, swerve into your lane, zoom through stop signs or otherwise break the law: How in the world did they pass their driving test? It's possible they didn't. A scheme that took root in or around 2010 at the Department of Motor Vehicles offices of El Cajon and Rancho San Diego resulted in hundreds of standard and commercial driving licenses being granted to people who failed or never took their driving tests. Applicants "who were unwilling or unable to pass the required DMV written and driving tests would speak with the recruiters. ... If they paid the fee, they would not have to take any of the required tests in order to receive a license," federal court records state. The arrangement "created a significant public safety risk," the records continue. [Read more in the San Diego Union Tribune.](#)

Legislators Looking To Increase Truck Weight Limit (Idaho)

AAA Idaho is concerned about allowing larger, heavier trucks to operate on state highways, bridges, and local roads. In 2003, Idaho legislators passed a house bill, which created a pilot project to test the effect of increasing the legal truck weights on state highways. "There were selected highways that were chosen to run a test study to see what kind of effects the overall weight would do to the roadways. We're at the ten year mark on that study and the results have been passed on to the legislatures" said Nathan Jerke, Idaho Transportation Department. Legislators this session will consider a proposal to increase the weight limit of trucks from 105,000 to 129,000 pounds on approved state highways. [Read the full story on kmvt.com.](#)

Young Drivers Who Don't Buckle Up Could Be Pulled Over, Cited Under Proposed New Law (Idaho)

Idaho still has no "primary" seat belt law, allowing police to pull over a driver just for a seat belt violation - but Rep. Rich Wills, R-Glenns Ferry, a retired state trooper, wants to enact one for drivers age 14-18. "We're losing too many of our youth," Wills declared. "Once they become drivers and get into the vehicles, they get around their peer groups and I think they get careless and imprudent." Under his bill, officers could pull over young drivers and cite them for seat belt violations even if they didn't have another, primary offense, such as speeding; a primary offense still would be required to cite those over age 18 for not wearing seat belts. Wills said he included 18-year-olds "simply because ... there's so many of 'em that are still in high school, and they are the ones that become the leaders, because the other kids look up to them as mentors." Thirty-one states and the District of Columbia have primary seatbelt laws for front-seat occupants. [Read the full article in the Spokesman-Review.](#)

Bill Bans Pedestrians Texting While Crossing Roads (Nevada)

A bill before the Nevada Assembly would make it illegal for pedestrians to read, browse the internet or enter data with hand-held devices while crossing highways in the state. Democratic Las Vegas Assemblyman Harvey Munford introduced AB123 during the floor session Thursday. He says his intention is for the law to apply to all state roads, even in residential areas. [Read the full article on CBS Las Vegas.](#)

Martinez Embraces Senate Republican's Compromise Bill on Immigrant Licenses (New Mexico)

After weeks of speculation about a compromise on changing a 2003 law that allows undocumented immigrants to get New Mexico driver's licenses, Senate Republican Leader Stuart Ingle of Portales introduced a bill Monday that would alter the state's licensing system. Senate Bill 521 quickly was endorsed by Gov. Susana Martinez, whose spokesman called it "a very reasonable compromise." However, Marcela Diaz of Somos Un Pueblo Unido, a local advocacy group for immigrants, complained that "this so-called compromise is an insult to those who are trying to create fair and workable solutions that integrate immigrant families into our state's public safety and anti-[drunken-driving] efforts." [Read the full article in the Santa Fe New Mexican.](#)

Bill Would Phase Out Car Emission Tests in Oregon, Just Like Washington

An Oregon lawmaker wants the state to be more like its northern neighbor when it comes to inspecting cars for pollution emissions. Don't, in other words. Sen. Chuck Thomsen, R-Hood River, has introduced a bill that calls for the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality to revise its clean-air rules for motor vehicles to emulate Washington's. And Washington is phasing out its vehicle inspection program. Oregon subjects most cars in the Portland and Medford areas to emission testing every two years. Thomsen says those inspections are no longer necessary for many newer, fuel efficient and electric hybrid cars. [Read the full story in the Oregonian.](#)

SGI Wants to Raise Rates 2.3% (Saskatchewan)

Saskatchewan drivers could see their insurance rates going up an average of 2.27 per cent starting Aug. 31. Saskatchewan Government Insurance wants to rebalance rates, so that most people will see either an increase or a decrease. About one per cent of the increase is a special surcharge that SGI wants for three years to replenish its rate stabilization reserve. That's the fund the company uses in years when there are higher-than-normal claims, to avoid dramatic rate increases. [Read the full article on cbc.ca.](#)

Senate Helps Out Specialty License Plates Backers (Utah)

The Senate voted Tuesday to give groups with lagging specialized license plate requests more time to reach the required 500 orders to keep them as viable offerings. Sen. Peter Knudson, R-Brigham City, said some groups are splintered throughout the state and have difficulty rallying to achieve big orders. He said SB48 would afford the groups - like the Rotary Club - a chance "to give it another shot" and get more plates issued. [Read the full story in the Salt Lake Tribune.](#)

Did You Know...

- *The youngest person to ever receive an Oscar was 5-year-old Shirley Temple - in 1934 (However, Shirley's Oscar was an honorary one.)*
- *The youngest actress to win a standard Oscar was Tatum O'Neal, who was 10 years old when she won the Best Supporting Actress award for "Paper Moon" in 1974.*
- *Christopher Plummer became the oldest person to win an Oscar, when he won for Best Supporting Actor in 2012 for his performance in "Beginners", at age 82.*
- *The three movies that won the most Oscars were "Lord of the Rings: Return of the King" (2003), "Titanic" (1997) and "Ben-Hur" (1959). Each of those movies won 11 statuettes.*
- *Meryl Streep holds the record for the most total Oscar nominations for acting, with 17 nominations (and three wins: two for Best Actress, and one for Best Supporting Actress).*
- *The individual who was awarded the most total Oscars was none other than Walt Disney, who walked away with 26 Academy Awards over his lifetime (22 regular Oscars and four honorary ones.) He had 64 total Oscar nominations.*

- *The longest acceptance speech ever given at an Academy Awards ceremony was given by Greer Garson, when she accepted her award for Best Actress in 1942's "Mrs. Miniver." It's uncertain exactly how long she spoke - most sources agree it was somewhere between 5 1/2 and 7 minutes.*
- *The Oscar statuette weighs 6 3/4 pounds, and stands 13 1/2 inches high. It was named by Margaret Herrick, the Academy librarian, who remarked in 1931 (upon seeing the statuettes), "Why it looks like my Uncle Oscar!" (Her uncle's full name, for the record, was Oscar Pierce.)*