



TMCA NEWS

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President's Message

What is a public servant? The dictionary defines a public servant as an elected or appointed governmental official. I believe that is true, but I also believe that a public servant is so much more. I believe that we are called to serve each other wherever we are. As municipal clerks we have an awesome opportunity to serve. Not only do we serve our communities and our citizens, but we serve each other. I'm always so proud that we have so many municipal clerks who are willing to lend a helping hand to the new municipal clerk, but just as proud of each of you who step up to assist that clerk who has been in municipal government for a number of years.

We talk about having a "heart of a public servant." What exactly does that mean? To me that means



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TMCA President
LeAnn Gallman, TRMC
City Secretary, Muleshoe

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

stepping up to do whatever I can to serve in whatever capacity I can to make the world a better place and to do that with as much passion as possible. We all know that municipal clerks wear many hats. We talk about that all the time. How do you suppose that happened? Recently, I was talking to a group of municipal clerks at one of my chapter visits about celebrating Municipal Clerks Week. I was telling them how we joke about the municipal clerk profession being the oldest profession. The first municipal clerks were actually the record keepers for the city. As time went on, more and more things needed to be done, and it was the municipal clerk who was asked to take on the new job responsibility. And, of course, having the heart of a public servant, the clerk was happy to take on another

responsibility. Eventually, the municipal clerk's office evolved to where we are today. While sometimes we feel like we can't possibly take on another task, I'm thankful to be able to serve my community. We make a difference in the lives of our citizens.

While this is just my rendition of how I think this happened, it makes perfect sense to me. We are so involved in our communities that when we see something that needs doing, we eagerly make it our responsibility to see that it gets done. And on a greater scale, municipal clerks step up when called upon by the Texas Municipal Clerks Association to mentor a new clerk in a neighboring city; to instruct a class or convene a session at the TMCCP Election Law Seminar; or to serve on a TMCA, Inc.,



President LeAnn Gallman, TRMC, represents Texas in the Parade of Flags at the annual International Institute of Municipal Clerks Conference in Portland, Oregon, in May. [[Article on page 7](#)]

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

committee in the coming year when asked by the TMCA president elect. We all have many opportunities to serve, and I urge you to eagerly look for those opportunities.

We are fortunate to have so many talented municipal clerks who continue to serve even after retirement. Marty Hendrix, TRMC, retired city secretary, Fort Worth; Susie Quinn, TRMC, retired city secretary, Rowlett; and Deloris McKenzie, TRMC, retired city secretary, Friendswood, instructed at the TMCCP Election Law Seminar in January. Marty Hendrix also instructed the "Agendas & Minutes" session at the June seminar in Nassau Bay. Municipal clerks continue to serve wherever or whenever needed. They continue to give back to the profession they love. They truly have the "heart of a public servant."

I celebrate you and the job you do for your city. Yes, you are an appointed governmental official, but you are so much more than that. Serve gladly and serve passionately. Be optimistic: WE ARE creating the future.

It is my honor and pleasure to serve as your 2012 TMCA president.

LeAnn Gallman, TRMC

2012 TMCA President

lgallman@fivearea.com

Upcoming Educational Opportunities

August 8, Amarillo • Registration now open

State Notary Commission's

"Texas Notary Laws & Procedures" Session

Speaker: Dixie Lucey

Educational credit: The state application for new and renewing notaries will be processed at this session.

Aug. 9-10, Amarillo • Registration now open

"The Future of Local Government Management" Seminar

Speaker: Ron Holifield

Educational credit: TMCCP Course 1 or Recertification seminar attendance credit

October 18-19, San Marcos • Registration opens mid-August

Graduate Institute Seminar

Speaker: John Burnett

Educational credit: TMCCP Course 2 or Recertification seminar attendance credit

TMCCP SEMINAR

The Future of Local Government Management

August 9-10, 2012, Amarillo • With Speaker Ron Holifield, Strategic Government Resources

Join us in Amarillo this August for our TMCCP seminar, **“The Future of Local Government Management,”** with speaker Ron Holifield of Strategic Government Resources. **Registration is open to all.** Enrollees pursuing TMCCP certification or recertification can receive seminar attendance credit; this qualifies as a Course 1 seminar.



Ron Holifield
Strategic Government Resources

“Local government is experiencing unprecedented change. We feel the ground shaking under our feet and we sense that the very foundations of our institutions are being violently shaken. We see the constant turbulence and wonder if things will ever be calm again. It is not just the pace of change that is accelerating: the very nature of change is changing!

“This seminar will help you understand the dramatic political, social, generational, and technological changes affecting your local government—and will provide practical strategies for thriving in the most challenging times of your career.”

Registration is now open—sign up today! ★

OPTIONAL SESSION

Texas Notary Law & Procedures Session

1:30-4:30 p.m., Wednesday, August 8

The Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program is honored to feature the State Notary Commission in a **special notary training session on August 8**. This special session is separate from the TMCCP August seminar, with different educational credit. **Learn more and register today.**

OPTIONAL SPECIAL EVENT

TEXAS! Musical

Evening of Thursday, August 9

Join us for an evening of dinner and entertainment at the outdoor **TEXAS! musical in Palo Duro Canyon**. The \$34.00 registration fee includes your musical ticket, dinner, and bus transportation. Sign up before July 25 using our **registration form**. See you there!

Honoring 2012 TMCA Retirees

By Retirement Committee Chair **Linda Byers, TRMC**
City Secretary, Vernon



Linda Byers, TRMC

The TMCA Retirement Committee already has information on some of the early 2012 retirees that have been received in the TMCA office, but we certainly do not want to overlook any of the wonderful clerks who have helped us out over the years. We want to honor each and every one of these retirees at the TMCA Awards Banquet at our TMCCP Graduate Institute this October in San Marcos.

If you know of a recent retiree or someone who is planning retirement this year, please have them complete the brief 2012 Retiree Data Sheet and return it to me or another of the Retirement Committee members.

These wonderful leaders deserve recognition for their service. Please assist us in honoring them. ★



2012 TMCA Retirement Committee members:
 Committee Chair **Linda Byers, TRMC**, City Sec., Vernon
Zanea Carpenter, TRMC, Dep. City Secretary, Muleshoe
Peggy Cimics, TRMC, City Secretary/HR Dir., Cibolo
Amanda McCrory, TRMC, City Secretary, Burleson
Gail Weir, TRMC, City Secretary, Ore City
 TMCA Board Liaison **Scarlet Swoboda, TRMC**,
 City Secretary, Victoria

2013 TMCA Committee Service

By President Elect **Norma Grimaldo, TRMC**

City Secretary, Odessa

Application deadline is September 1—apply today!



Norma Grimaldo, TRMC

Our TMCA committees are very valuable to our association. I have seen our committee members' diligent work and the seriousness with which they have taken responsibility to work together to accomplish the important goals of each committee.

Serving on a TMCA committee can be very rewarding—whether through

- scoring scholarship applications on the Scholarship Committee and **awarding funds for the continuing education of our clerks**;
- **scoring Municipal Clerk of the Year nomination forms** as a member of the Municipal Clerk of the Year Committee;
- composing the resolutions of the Resolutions Committee that **highlight the accomplishments made by members and friends of our association**;
- serving on the Retirement Committee to **recognize and celebrate with our retirees** for their many years of dedication given to our profession;
- **reviewing and revising educational policies** in serving on the Certification Committee;
- **assisting in the selection of the future leaders of our Association** with the Nominating Committee;
- **showcasing TMCA** as you work with fellow TML Booth Committee members;

- **ensuring the financial accountability of our Association** by offering service on the Audit Committee; or
- **recruiting new members** through the efforts of the Membership Committee.

As you can see, there are many opportunities to participate and be a part of the legacy of TMCA. Each of you has a contribution to make. It's no secret that the Texas Municipal Clerks Association is made up of tremendously talented individuals.

Consider serving on one of the committees in 2013. Whether you have previously served on a committee or this is your first time, you will form a camaraderie with other members of our profession.

Let's continue our outstanding accomplishments through the committees. Fill out the **Committee Interest Questionnaire** and note your preferred choices of committee service. If you have any questions, call me at 432-335-4163. I look forward to hearing from you. ★

IIMC Conference

By IIMC Region IV Director **Mary Kayser, TRMC**

City Secretary, Fort Worth

May 20-24, Portland, Oregon

The 2012 IIMC conference was awesome. The Oregon clerks did an outstanding job hosting this conference. The education sessions and special events were excellent.

The IIMC Board of Directors arrived Thursday and met on Friday for Board Development and Strategic Planning. The board has spent five years developing, modifying, and adding to the strategic plan for the organization. We all know that if you don't update and tweak your plan it goes stale. IIMC is committed to updating and changing the plan as the organization grows and changes. As part of this discussion we talked about the "I" in IIMC—our international clerks and how IIMC can better meet their needs in education and networking. We also spent part of Thursday discussing "Clerk-dom" — discussing who we are and what we do and how to



Texas Municipal Clerks at the IIMC Annual Conference in Portland in May.

IIMC CONFERENCE

better get the word out to our citizens, bosses and co-workers about what it is exactly that we do. We do not tell our story often enough, and we don't tout our professionalism and education as much as we should. Be looking for further items from IIMC on this topic in upcoming Digest articles or E-Briefings.

Friday was the board meeting, and it was productive. We adopted a Memorandum of Understanding with AMCTO (Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario). This agreement formalizes our relationship with AMCTO and its members and we will be exploring partnerships for educational opportunities for both groups.

There was a great deal of discussion about Region 11 (everyone outside of North America). Changes were made to the education guidelines related to Regions 10 and 11 to help fold their education requirements into IIMCs and make the attainment of CMC and MMC status more streamlined.

President Nicol established a Blue Ribbon Panel to explore alternatives and make recommendations to various procedural and

Top right: Peggy Burnside, TRMC, TMCA administrative director; Jenny Page, TRMC, city secretary, Frisco; and Betty Brown, TRMC, local government election specialist, Bickerstaff Heath.

TMCA President LeAnn Gallman, TRMC, city secretary, Muleshoe, represents the State of Texas in the Parade of Flags.



IIMC CONFERENCE

policy changes that will help to make processes behind our Education programs more efficient and adapt to the changes and challenges that face IIMC and its members. The Blue Ribbon Panel is to report back to the Board by July 1. Our very own Mary Lynne Stratta, TRMC, city secretary, Bryan, is on the panel along with other IIMC leaders who are passionate about education. I am looking forward to hearing their findings.

The institute directors met with staff and had lots of discussion among themselves about clerk education and what is working and what could be better. I was able to sit in on some of the conversations, and they were productive. IIMC is a growing and maturing organization, and since our principal mission is education we have to focus on ensuring that we are providing the best education for our clerks and that we are adapting to the changes in technology and budgets



IIMC Region 4 clerks at the annual conference.

IIMC CONFERENCE

and needs of the clerks. We are definitely going in the right direction.

We had reports from all of the IIMC Committees. These committees worked hard this year, and the reports we well received. If you served on a committee last year or are serving this year—THANK YOU!!

Financially IIMC is in excellent shape. Our membership drive has resulted in 81 new members since its inception. The Conference in 2016 will be in Omaha, Nebraska. All good news.

If you have any questions about anything the board discussed, please **contact me**, and I will be happy to answer questions or provide more information.

The conference itself was outstanding. There were sessions on Records and Information Management, Disaster Preparedness, Communication, Ethics, Collaboration, Mediation, and Budgeting, to name a few. It was hard to pick which session to attend some days; they all sounded great. My particular favorite was one entitled “When Emergencies Attack.” The clerks from Mill City, Oregon; Wilmington, Vermont; and Joplin, Missouri, discussed the emergencies faced by their municipalities (fire,

*Top right photo, from left to right: **Jenny Page, TRMC**, city secretary, Frisco; **Miriam Sheehan, TRMC**, administrative assistant, Texas Municipal Clerks; **Peggy Burnside, TRMC**, administrative director, Texas Municipal Clerks; **Lydia Ozuna, TRMC**, city clerk, Wichita Falls; and **LeAnn Gallman, TRMC**, city secretary, Muleshoe. *Near right: Texas clerks posed with Municipal Code Corporation’s new mascot, “Codi.”**



photo by LeAnn Gallman, TRMC



IIMC CONFERENCE

flood, and tornado respectively). The clerks discussed what went right; what they didn't know; and what they wished they had done beforehand. Hearing from those who have faced a disaster personally really gives you things to think about that you could do right now. What would I save? What will the insurance company need so that I can get back to work quickly even in a different location? Do we have backups of everything we need (water billing records) to ensure that income is coming in? In the case of the two cities that had floods and tornadoes – what happens to your tax base when everything is gone? This was an outstanding session with information that you could take home and use.

All in all the conference was a success. As you can see from the pictures, Texas had a great showing, as did Region 4. TMCA President LeAnn Gallman did us proud with the Texas flag!!

If you haven't already, make plans to attend next year's IIMC conference in Atlantic City, New Jersey, May 19-23, 2013.

The next Region 4 meeting will be December 6-8, 2012, in Rodgers, Arkansas.

It is an honor and a privilege to serve as one of the IIMC Region 4 Directors. ★

TMCCP SEMINAR Public Funds Investment

April 12-13, 2012, Waco

TMCCP's "Public Funds Investment" Seminar with speaker Patrick Shinkle was a great success! Over 130 were in attendance, and feedback was very positive. Thank you to the Central Texas Chapter, who generously provided goodie bags and door prizes.



Texas Municipal League Report

By TML Representative **Norma Grimaldo, TRMC**
City Secretary, Odessa



The TML Conference is coming together. TML t-shirts are for sale on the website.

This year the schedule has changed due to the 100th anniversary celebration. The opening session will be on Wednesday, November 14, at 9:00 a.m. The Centennial Gala Celebration will be on Wednesday, November 14, from 7:00-10:00 p.m. The conference will end on Friday, November 16, at 11:45 a.m.; no luncheon is scheduled for that day.

The TML Conference site for 2015 is San Antonio and the Conference site for 2016 is Austin.

A legislative report was given on a few issues that the House and Senate would be considering on possible future legislation. One bill related to the cities is Federal Bill No. 1443. It would prohibit the state using eminent domain for economic development purposes.

The TML Policy Committees consisting of elected officials were set. ★

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Alamo Chapter

By Chapter President **Jennifer Reyna, TRMC**
City Secretary, Alamo Heights

October 2011

On October 26, 2011, President Jennifer Reyna, TRMC, city secretary, Alamo Heights, called the meeting to order at 11:37 a.m. at Encanto Restaurant in Schertz.

Vice President Carole Vanzant, TRMC, city secretary, Fair Oaks Ranch, introduced Lisa Pinto, SWBC Marketing manager and Public Relations Manager, who gave a presentation on good customer service practices and media relations.

President Jennifer Reyna presented Ms. Yolanda Benitez with a beautiful blue blanket from the Texas Municipal Clerks Association, Inc., as well as an Alamo charm from the Alamo Chapter. This was followed by a presentation of a photo collage made from Cibolo Assistant City Secretary Sheila Edmondson and City Secretary Peggy Cimics. Ms. Benitez retired from the City of Garden Ridge after over 22 years of public service.



Retiring Garden Ridge City Secretary **Yolanda Benitez, TRMC**, is presented an Alamo charm from the Alamo Chapter.

Banquet Committee Chairman Delia Flores, TRMC, city secretary, announced that the annual banquet would be held at Aldaco's at Stone Oak on Sunday, December 4. Tickets were \$30.00, and each city was asked to bring a gift for a door prize.

Scholarship Committee Chair Carole Vanzant, TRMC, city secretary, Fair Oaks Ranch, reported that to date, only one scholarship application had been received. Chairman Vanzant encouraged all interested to apply and reminded everyone of the November 2011 deadline.

President Reyna also asked the chapter members if the chapter should have both a regular chapter meeting and the banquet in December, or if the meeting should be rescheduled. After a brief discussion, the members present voted to reschedule the next meeting to February 2012.

ALAMO CHAPTER

President Reyna announced that the next meeting will be hosted by the City of Castle Hills at the Community Center in Castle Hills on February 26.

December Meeting

The Alamo Chapter TMCA hosted its second annual banquet on Sunday, December 4. The banquet was held at Aldaco's Restaurant in San Antonio. Guests were comprised of members, spouses, friends, and city officials. This was an excellent opportunity to simply enjoy good company and delicious Mexican food during the holiday season. A scrumptious red velvet or white flavored decorated holiday cake was served to all attendees present. Norma S. Rodriguez Scholarships were awarded to three recipients in the amount of \$250: Leticia Vacek, TRMC, city clerk, San Antonio; Shelley Goodwin, TRMC, city secretary, Garden Ridge; and Saundra Passailaigue, TRMC, city clerk, Shavano Park. The scholarship funds are designated to reimburse members for a TMCCP certification course fee/book/travel expenses or college course fees/book expenses.

President Reyna expressed appreciation to the members that served on the different committees.

Banquet Committee members and scholarship recipients. *At top right (pictured left to right):* **Carole Vanzant, TRMC**, city secretary, Fair Oaks Ranch; **Leticia Vacek, TRMC**, (scholarship recipient), city clerk, San Antonio; **Yolanda Benitez, TRMC**, city secretary (ret.), Garden Ridge; and **Janice Alamia**, city secretary, Hollywood Park. *At near right (pictured left to right):* **Carole Vanzant, TRMC**; **Saundra Passailaigue, TRMC** (scholarship recipient), city clerk, Shavano Park; **Yolanda Benitez, TRMC**; and **Janice Alamia**.



ALAMO CHAPTER

The following members were recognized for their service on committees:

Banquet Committee: Chair Delia Flores, TRMC, city secretary, Balcones Heights; Angela Cantu, city secretary-treasurer, La Vernia; Celia DeLeon, city secretary, Olmos Park; Leticia Saenz, deputy city clerk, San Antonio; and Committee Liaison Jennifer Reyna, TRMC, city secretary, Alamo Heights

City Clerk/City Secretary Nominating Committee: Chair Leticia Vacek, TRMC, city clerk, San Antonio; Grace Tamez, TRMC, city secretary, Helotes; Debby Goza, TRMC, city secretary, Live Oak; and Janie Willman, city secretary, Leon Valley

Scholarship Committee: Chair Carole Vanzant, TRMC, city secretary, Fair Oaks Ranch; Janice Alamia, city secretary, Hollywood Park; Peggy Cimics, TRMC, city secretary/HR director, Cibolo; and Yolanda Benitez, TRMC, city secretary (ret.), Garden Ridge

Lovely door prizes were donated by members and were given away throughout the evening to present members and guests.

Effective February 29, Adriana “Penny” Hieronymous retired with the City of Converse. She served the public over 25 years in the capacity of city secretary, finance director, and treasurer. She will be greatly missed, and



Celia DeLeon, city secretary, Olmos Park, awarded the festive holiday table decoration (door prize) to **Patty Cox**, TRMC, city secretary, Kirby. *Left to right:* **Celia DeLeon**; **Yolanda Benitez**, TRMC, city secretary (ret.), Garden Ridge; **Patty Cox**, TRMC; **Barbara Haddock**, city secretary (ret.), Hollywood Park.

ALAMO CHAPTER

we wish her well in her plans to simply enjoy retirement! The chapter gave Penny a plant in honor of her contributions to the chapter and the knowledge she has shared with other members. Congratulations on your retirement, Penny! ★



Converse City Secretary **Penny Hieronymous** was gifted with a plant by the chapter in honor of her retirement.

The following Alamo Chapter members were present at the October meeting:

Janice Alamia,
city secretary, Hollywood Park

Peggy Cimics, TRMC,
city secretary, Cibolo

Gloria Colbath, city secretary, Hondo

Patty Cox, TRMC, city secretary, Kirby

Rebecca Del Toro, Selma

Sheila Edmondson,
assistant city secretary, Cibolo

Delia Flores, TRMC,
city secretary, Balcones Heights

Linda Gill, city secretary, Castle Hills

Tina Flores, San Antonio

Shelley Goodwin, TRMC,
city secretary, Garden Ridge

Deborah Goza, TRMC,
city secretary, Live Oak

Debra Howe, TRMC,
city secretary, Castroville

Cassandra Maldonado, Devine

Saundra Passailaigue, TRMC,
city clerk, Shavano Park

Jennifer Reyna, TRMC,
city secretary, Alamo Heights

Dora Rodriguez,
interim city administrator, Devine

Sandy Rodriguez, Hondo

Leticia Saenz,
deputy city clerk, San Antonio

Melinda Uriegas,
elections manager, San Antonio

Leticia Vacek, TRMC,
city clerk, San Antonio

Carole Vanzant, TRMC,
city secretary, Fair Oaks Ranch

Trudy Whitfield, HR tech, Live Oak

Mary Ybarra, TRMC, executive assistant
to the asst. city mgr., Schertz

Guests that joined the chapter meeting were Lisa Pinto, SWBC Marketing Manager and Public Relations Manager; Yolanda Benitez (retired city secretary, Garden Ridge); Marie Feutz, (retired city secretary, Leon Valley); and Barbara Haddock (retired city secretary, Hollywood Park).

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Bluebonnet Chapter

By Chapter Historian **Kim Kelley**

City Secretary/Court Clerk, Stamford

On March 2 the Bluebonnet Chapter met at the Coleman Public Library for our quarterly meeting. Coleman City Secretary Karen Langley introduced City of Coleman Mayor Carolyn Merriman. Mayor Merriman thanked everyone for attending and gave a quick talk about the City of Coleman.

Lunch was provided by Atmos Energy. All in attendance had a wide variety of soup, salad, and roll-up finger foods to choose from for lunch. After lunch was finished, a short business meeting was held by Chapter President Maria Franco, city secretary, Hamlin. Treasurer Christi Wynn, TRMC, city secretary, Brownwood, gave a brief report.

All in attendance were reminded that the TMCA scholarship fund application deadline of June 15 was approaching. Attendees discussed who they felt should be nominated for the 2012 Texas Municipal Clerk of the Year Award. Danette Dunlap, TRMC, city secretary, Abilene, was unanimously nominated for the consideration.



The Bluebonnet Chapter at their March meeting at the Coleman Public Library.

BLUEBONNET CHAPTER

Danette Dunlap gave the program, which was a discussion on records retention. After the program a reminder was given to submit Bluebonnet Chapter annual dues to the treasurer.

The silent auction, which is always a fun time, brought in \$184.00 for the scholarship fund.

Hostess Karen Langley thanked everyone for attending, and reminded members to be sure to mark their calendars for the meeting on June 13 to be held in De Leon. If you are interested in joining the Bluebonnet Chapter, please come to our next meeting or contact Chapter President Maria Franco, city secretary, Hamlin. ★

Attendees at March the meeting:

Nan Billings, TRMC, city secretary, Bangs

Danette Dunlap, TRMC, city secretary, Abilene

Maria Franco, city secretary, Hamlin

Linda Knight, TRMC, city secretary, Breckenridge

Karen Langley, city secretary, Coleman

Diane Latham, assistant city secretary, Breckenridge

Pat Martindale, city secretary, Bronte

Billie Pearce, city secretary, Tuscola

Maggie Revera, Hamlin

Cindy Stafford, city secretary, Stephenville

Shirley Stuart, city secretary, Eastland

Kay Torres, city secretary, Robert Lee

Louetta Wallace, city secretary, Haskell

Mary Wells, city secretary, Ranger

Karen Wilkerson, city secretary/administrator, DeLeon

Christi Wynn, TRMC, city secretary, Brownwood

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Central Texas Chapter

By Chapter Secretary Diana Echartea, TRMC
City Secretary, Wortham

The Central Texas Chapter held a bi-monthly meeting on February 15. The City of Temple hosted the meeting at the Railroad and Heritage Museum. Mayor William A. Jones, III, welcomed everyone and discussed happenings around the City of Temple.

Members discussed including a drawing for gift baskets and setting up a reception table with gift bags at the TMCCP Public Funds Investment Seminar to be held in Waco on April 12-13.

More discussion was made on the annual Salado Seminar. This year it will be a one-day event with a reception to be held the evening before. Members discussed arrangements for speakers in the afternoon session.



Chapter members at the Railroad and Heritage Museum in Temple.

CENTRAL TEXAS CHAPTER

Discussion was held on concerns of leasing/purchasing of equipment and date options for the upcoming election.

Members reviewed by-law amendments, TMCA committee reports, and upcoming seminars.

The following 2012-2014 officers were installed: President Christi Shivers, TRMC, city secretary/finance director, Mexia; Vice President Donna Hawkins, city secretary, Beverly Hills; Secretary Diana Echartea, TRMC, city secretary, Wortham; Treasurer Michelle Hicks, city secretary, Lacy Lakeview; Assistant Secretary Jana Henderson, deputy city secretary, Temple; and Bereavement Officer Jana Taylor, city secretary, Fairfield.

A big THANK YOU was extended to the outgoing officers! Each was presented with a certificate of appreciation from President Lydia Lopez.



The new 2012-2014 Central Texas Chapter officers. *Back row:* President Christi Shivers, TRMC, city secretary/finance director, Mexia; Vice President Donna Hawkins, city secretary, Beverly Hills; Bereavement Officer Jana Taylor, city secretary, Fairfield; Assistant Secretary Jana Henderson, deputy city secretary, Temple. *Front row:* Secretary Diana Echartea, TRMC, city secretary, Wortham; and Treasurer Michelle Hicks, city secretary, Lacy Lakeview.

CENTRAL TEXAS CHAPTER

The Central Texas Chapter held their next bi-monthly meeting on April 18. The City of Mexia hosted the meeting at the Fire Department Training Room.

The chapter will continue to be busy making final details for the 2012 Annual Salado Seminar scheduled for July 20, and a poolside gathering to be held the night before, each hosted by the Central Texas Chapter. SAVE THE DATE of July 19 for networking, food, and fun!

In other announcements, the City of Hubbard will host the TML Regional meeting to be held on May 3. Also, chapter members were reminded of scholarships available through the Central Texas Chapter and Texas Municipal Clerks Association.

The chapter's nomination for 2012 Chapter Clerk of the Year is Lacy Borgeson, city secretary, Temple, and the chapter's nomination for 2012 TMCA Texas Municipal Clerk of the Year is Lydia Lopez, TRMC, city secretary, Hewitt. Congratulations, ladies!

Our condolences go out to Beverly Hills City Secretary Donna Hawkins and her family for the recent loss of her father. ★

Chapter members present at the April meeting:

Sandra Barton, city secretary, Robinson

Sheayla Duffly, Lacy Lakeview

Diana Echartea, TRMC, city secretary, Wortham

Patricia Ervin, TRMC, city secretary, Waco

Kaci Feares, Robinson

Amber Fuller, city secretary, Hubbard

Jana Henderson, deputy city secretary, Temple

Michelle Hicks, city secretary, Lacy Lakeview

Brenda Jackson, city secretary, Groesbeck

Dorothy Jackson, city manager, Hubbard

Judy Keally, city secretary, Teague

Lydia Lopez, TRMC, city secretary, Hewitt

President Christi Shivers, TRMC,
city secretary/finance director, Mexia

Angelia Sloan, city secretary/HR, McGregor

Jana Taylor, city secretary, Fairfield

Roshuna Wiley, deputy city secretary, Mexia

Kasi Wright, Wortham

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Coastal Bend Chapter

By **Amanda Franco Alvarado**
City Secretary, Mathis

The Coastal Bend Chapter meeting was hosted by Edna Lopez, TRMC, city secretary, Kingsville. The meeting was held at Butch's Restaurant. Everyone was welcomed by City Manager Vincent Capell before enjoying a hearty lunch from the restaurant's delicious menu.

President Swoboda, TRMC, city secretary, Victoria, announced the various upcoming seminars and the TML conference in Grapevine, and reminded the members that chapter dues were due for unpaid members. She also reminded everyone that the TMCA Major Scholarship applications were due on June 15 and encouraged all to apply.

Irma Parker, TRMC, city secretary, Rockport, reported that there had not been any chapter scholarship applications received and stated that she would email all a reminder with the application attached. The application deadline was extended to July 1. Irma also reported that



Coastal Bend Chapter members at their meeting in Kingsville.

COASTAL BEND CHAPTER

she would need to get together with Mary Lynne Stratta, TRMC, city secretary, Bryan, in regard to the upcoming Athenian Dialogue's book and location. Irma suggested looking into booking the condo in Port Aransas for a Friday and Saturday so it could also be a family affair. A spending limit was also authorized.

Irma Parker and Ester Arzola, city secretary, Port Aransas, were appointed to the chapter's Nominating Committee. As the June 15 deadline was near for TMCA Municipal Clerk of the Year, the nominations were held and Edna Lopez, TRMC, city secretary, Kingsville, was nominated, but declined. As the nominations proceeded, President Scarlet Swoboda, TRMC, city secretary, Victoria, was ultimately nominated for the chapter's Clerk of the Year. Congratulations, Scarlet!

The members discussed the various procedures that they employ when providing information to the newly appointed/elected officials. Different ideas and orientation packets were viewed and discussed. It was a great opportunity for everyone to share similar stories with the varied results and procedure changes as well as garner new ideas.

Mel Bernardo, city secretary, Beeville, volunteered to host the next meeting in Beeville on June 14, with the place to



COASTAL BEND CHAPTER

still be determined. Various suggestions on topics included using Laserfiche to record documents, a seminar on new records schedules, and how to salvage documents. Everyone agreed to have someone do a presentation on how to salvage documents once the documents have been exposed to the elements.

We want to thank City Manager Capell for welcoming us to Kingsville. Members were encouraged to attend the Blue Angels Air Show going on that weekend. ★

Members in attendance at the chapter meeting:

Esther Arzola, city secretary, Port Aransas

Mel Bernardo, city secretary, Beeville

Sereniah Breland, city administrator, Goliad

Pat Brown, administrative assistant, Rockport

Amanda Franco Alvarado, city secretary, Mathis

Pam Hatzenbuehler, deputy city secretary, Port Aransas

Pam Long, administrative assistant, Goliad

Edna Lopez, TRMC, city secretary, Kingsville

Irma Parker, TRMC, city secretary, Rockport

Scarlet Swoboda, TRMC, city secretary, Victoria

Bonnie Taylor, city secretary, Lake City

Guests in attendance:

Vincent Capell, city manager, Kingsville

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Lone Star Chapter

By Chapter Secretary **Stephanie Storm**
Records Analyst, Wylie

February 2012

The Lone Star Chapter met at the Lowry Crossing City Hall. President Kathy Wingo, TRMC, city secretary, Lucas, called the meeting to order.

Chapter business consisted of the review of the previous meeting minutes and treasurer's report. There was group discussion regarding a chapter Facebook page, starting a scholarship sponsorship program, and polling location setup.

President Wingo reviewed upcoming chapter meetings and other related seminars and meetings.

The meeting ended with a raffle with donations from the City of Lowry Crossing.

Chapter members at the February meeting in Lowry Crossing. *Top photo (in foreground):* **Christie Wilson, TRMC**, city secretary, The Colony, and **Elaine Simpson, TRMC**, interim city secretary, Garland. *Above:* **Carole Kuykendall**; **Vicki Faulkner, TRMC**, city secretary, Celina; and **Amy Piukana, TRMC**, town secretary, Prosper.



LONE STAR CHAPTER

March 2012

The Lone Star Chapter met at the Amore Pasta & Pizza in the city of The Colony. President Kathy Wingo called the meeting to order.

Chapter business included the review of the previous meeting minutes and treasurer's report. The scholarship committee awarded four scholarships to Carrie Smith, TRMC, city secretary, Parker; Alice Holloway, city secretary, Pilot Point; Jacky Casey, assistant to the city secretary, Wylie; and Joy Hart, TRMC, city secretary, Seagoville. There was a group discussion regarding moving the annual records day from July to September, and the chapter also discussed participating in the TMCA booth at the upcoming Texas Municipal League Conference in Grapevine. Mr. Ben Wyse, from Messer, Campbell & Brady LLP, was the speaker and presented "Looking for 'Other Law' Outside of the Public Information Act."

President Wingo reviewed upcoming chapter meetings and other related seminars and meetings. The meeting ended with a raffle with donations from the city of The Colony.

Chapter members at the March meeting in The Colony. *Above right:* **Debbie Newell**, city secretary, Greenville, and **Aimee Nemer**, TRMC, city secretary, Murphy. *Near right:* **Stephanie Storm**, records analyst, Wylie, and **Jacky Casey**, assistant to the city secretary, Wylie.



LONE STAR CHAPTER

April 2012

The Lone Star Chapter met at the Murphy Community Center in the city of Murphy. President Kathy Wingo called the meeting to order. City of Murphy Mayor Bret Baldwin and City Manager James Fisher welcomed the chapter.

Chapter business included the review of the previous meeting minutes and treasurer's report. The chapter held a roundtable discussion on ethical conduct concerning closed and open meetings.

President Wingo reviewed upcoming chapter meetings and other related seminars and meetings. Bruce Dunn, TRMC, town secretary, St. Paul, provided an updated membership brochure. It was announced that Aimee Nemer, TRMC, city secretary, Murphy, had been appointed to the TMCA Certification Committee, and Diane Zucco had been appointed as chair of the TMCA Resolutions Committee.

The meeting ended with a raffle with donations from the city of Murphy.

At the Lone Star Chapter meeting in Murphy. *At top right:* The Honorable Mayor Bret Baldwin; James Fisher, city manager; and Aimee Nemer, TRMC, city secretary, City of Murphy. *Near right:* **Vicky Varnau**, legal assistant, Messer, Campbell & Brady, LLP; and **Christie Wilson**, TRMC, city secretary, The Colony.



LONE STAR CHAPTER

Please join us as a member or a guest at our future chapter meetings:

July – No meeting

August 1 – No regular meeting, Athenian Dialogue, City of Murphy

September 19 – Records Day, City of Plano

October 3 – City of Denison

Visit the Lone Star Chapter's website to learn about upcoming events or to obtain membership information at

<http://tmcalonestarchapter.com>. ★

Members in attendance at the April meeting:

Donna Bradshaw, planning coordinator, Lucas

Janis Cable, city secretary, Lowry Crossing

Jacky Casey, administrative secretary, Wylie

Bruce Dunn, TRMC, town secretary, St. Paul

Jennifer Faircloth, administrative assistant, Lucas

Shelley George, TRMC, city secretary, Allen

Aimee Nemer, TRMC, city secretary, Murphy

Vickie Schmid, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Richardson

Elaine Simpson, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Garland

Alice Snyder, TRMC, assistant city secretary, Plano

Stephanie Storm, records analyst, Wylie

Christie Wilson, TRMC, city secretary, The Colony

Kathy Wingo, TRMC, city secretary, Lucas

Diane Zucco, TRMC, city secretary, Plano

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Lower Rio Grande Valley Chapter

By **Annette Villarreal, TRMC**
City Secretary, McAllen

January 2012 Meeting

The City of San Juan graciously hosted the January 25 chapter meeting and luncheon at the San Juan Fire Station #2. The guest speaker was Ms. Yvonne Ramon, Hidalgo County Elections Administrator, who gave a presentation on the status of the Redistricting Plan and

impacts on the May city elections. A lengthy discussion was held about various educational and training opportunities. In attendance were representatives from the Cities of San Juan, Pharr, Penitas, Palmview, Hidalgo, Mission, Mission CISD, Brownsville, Weslaco, Mercedes, and McAllen.



LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY CHAPTER

March 2012 Meeting

The Cities of Palmview and Penitas graciously hosted the chapter's March 22 meeting and luncheon at Chosita's Restaurant in Palmview.

For membership information, contact Bobby Rodriguez, city secretary, San Juan, at 956-702-6400. ★



Those in attendance at the March meeting were:

Ana Cantu, city secretary, Penitas

Norma Olvera, TRMC, administrative supervisor to city manager, McAllen

Sonia Padron, TRMC, asst. city clerk, Pharr

Vice President Hilda Pedraza, TRMC, city clerk, Pharr

Aida Rivas, city secretary, Palmview

Secretary Bobby Rodriguez, city secretary, San Juan

Yesenia Rodriguez, administrative supervisor, McAllen

Historian Annette Villarreal, TRMC, city secretary, McAllen

President Perla Zamora, TRMC, deputy city secretary, McAllen

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

North Texas Chapter

By Chapter President **Kim Sutter, TRMC**
City Secretary, Euless

It is amazing just how fast the year goes by as we attend meetings, plan elections, and deal with the many tasks that keeps our profession interesting – not to mention the many parents that serve in this profession and take care of responsibilities at home and with the family. On a personal note, my “baby” boy (the last of three) will graduate from high school this year and enter a new chapter of his life. Talk about time flying by! If you have little ones still in school, enjoy them while you can.

By the time this article publishes, the May 12, 2012, general elections will be behind us, and a few of us may be preparing for a runoff; the primary elections will have just wrapped up as well; and the North Texas Chapter (NTMCA) will have wrapped up the plans for our annual awards meeting in June. This is the time of year when we announce the NTMCA Chapter Clerk of the Year, the nominee for TMCA Municipal

Clerk of the Year, and award scholarship(s) in memory of Alyce Deering, TRMC.

Before I continue, I want to take this opportunity to encourage each and every one of you—“new kids” and “veterans” to reach out to one another—whether to offer advice or ask for advice. I did not know Alyce Deering well, but I certainly knew OF Alyce. Alyce served as the Hurst City Secretary for close to 17 years before losing a courageous battle with Acute Myelogenous Leukemia (cancer of the blood and bone marrow) in 2005. I admired Alyce from a distance as I was the “new kid” on the block, and she was the seasoned “veteran.” I have heard many stories about Alyce over the years and of the many great relationships that she formed with her fellow clerks—I can’t help but feel I missed out by not having some sort of relationship with Alyce. Don’t miss out: take the time to form relationships with your fellow



Alyce Deering, TRMC

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER

clerks. You gain more than you can even imagine. Attending the monthly chapter meetings and the TMCA seminars is the perfect opportunity to get started on forming relationships that will carry you through the good times and the not-so-good times. Please join us in June as we celebrate some good times, recognize some exceptional folks, and honor Alyce's memory.

Additionally, the NTMCA is keeping pace and it has been quite busy this year:

Professional Seminar

Another excellent Professional Seminar was held in Trophy Club in March. The committee did a fabulous job in selecting a venue, setting the program, and securing speakers and sponsors. My heartfelt thanks goes to the committee for their efforts: thanks to Chair Mary Supino, city secretary, Arlington; Shannon DePrater, town secretary, Trophy Club; and Amy Arnold, TRMC, city secretary, White Settlement.

Sponsors of the NTMCA Professional Seminar



Matthews Office City



MCCI



Shred N Go



Scott Merriman and Kofile



NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER

April Meeting

Special thanks goes to April Hill, TRMC, city secretary, Roanoke, for serving as host for the NTMCA monthly meeting in April. We were welcomed by City Manager Jimmy Stathatos and Jon Stigliano, President and Founder of Strategic Solutions Group. We were presented with helpful tips, including “maximizing your productivity,” “prioritizing by priority and not preference,” and “the more, less, continue theory.” We are pleased to welcome Jon back to visit with us in August in Burleson.

I hope that you will join us at one of our upcoming meetings as we continue the NTMCA Empowerment Speaker Series.

Upcoming meetings:

June 20 - Southlake – Annual Awards Luncheon

July 18 - Highland Village

August 15 - Burleson

September 12 - Bedford



Top right: At the NTMCA April meeting in Roanoke.

Near right: Shannon DePrater, town secretary, Trophy Club, and Tammy Ard, Trophy Club.

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER

At the NTMCA April meeting. Below: **Nicole Siedel**, Fort Worth, and **Ron Gonzales, TRMC**, assistant city secretary, Fort Worth. Bottom: **Jon Stigliano**, guest speaker.



TMCCP Certificates Earned

Congratulations to the following enrollees who earned course certificates in the Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program after completing the homework, attending the required seminars, and passing the examination for the designated course.

Course 1

Lacy Borgeson, Temple
 Angela Burton, Briarcliff
 Cara D. Hubbard, Reno
 Keesha Lay, Keene
 Gretchen Mercer, Canyon

Lisa Modisette, Hedwig Village
 Andrea Rains, Amarillo
 Cynthia Raleigh, Schertz
 Theresa Scott, Flower Mound
 Chris Serres, Orange County
 WCID #1
 Connie Sexton, Winona
 Billie B. Swope, Point
 Karen Wilkerson, De Leon
 Katy Williams, Perryton

Course 2

Angela Cantu, La Vernia
 Peggy Jackson, Orange County
 WCID #1

Course 4

Shannon DePrater, Trophy Club
 Dianne Peace, Jarrell
 JoAnn Touchstone, Dripping
 Springs
 Tammy Varner, Midlothian

Course 3

Rosena J Becker-Ross, Mount
 Enterprise
 Lacy Borgeson, Temple
 Jessica Brettle, Georgetown
 Paula Chambers, Throckmorton
 Tammy K. Cook, San Marcos
 Janice England, Saginaw
 Charlene Gardner, Pampa
 Alice Holloway, Pilot Point
 Peggy Jackson, Orange County
 WCID #1
 Linda E. Jennings, Texas City
 Gena Jiral, Yoakum
 Karen D. Langley, Coleman
 Tina Linder, Briarcliff
 Rachael Lynch, Carmine

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Northeast Texas Chapter

By Chapter President **Gail Weir, TRMC**
City Secretary, Ore City

The quarterly meeting for the Northeast Chapter was held on March 23 at Tradition's Family Restaurant in Tyler (one of our favorites). All attending enjoyed an interesting session of "Exciting/Frightening Issues."

The chapter is excited to be sponsoring another seminar this summer: The Government Treasurers of Texas will be presenting a "Cash Handling" seminar on June 15 from 1-5:00 p.m. at Maude Cobb Convention Center in Longview. You can register for the event at the GTOT website. This is a good time for learning and fellowship. The business meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m. at Cotton Patch Cafe on McCann Street.

The Northeast Texas Chapter encourages its members to apply for its annual certification



Northeast Texas Chapter members at the March meeting.

NORTHEAST TEXAS CHAPTER

scholarship. Applications are available by calling Ore City City Secretary Gail Weir, TRMC, at 903-968-2511, or emailing cityoforecity@etex.net. Applications should be returned by July 30 by mail to Mrs. Gail Weir, 302 East Main Street, Ore City, Texas, 75683.

Carthage City Secretary Donna Sickel reported that she is having her first election, and the city's first since 1994! She is in for an experience, and appreciated all the advice. Some related various cutbacks cities will be making. One of the best things about our chapter and the state association is the availability of years of knowledge from our peers.

We look forward to seeing you at our "Cash Handling Seminar" June 15! ★

Members in attendance at the March meeting:

Gail Weir, TRMC, city secretary, Ore City

Cecilia Schmitt, city secretary, Wake Village

Karen Custer, Kilgore

Lawanna Williams, assistant finance director, Kilgore

Deborah Dane, city clerk, Kilgore

Yvonne McCauley, city secretary/court clerk, Van

Donna Sickel, city secretary, Carthage

Vickie Brenton, TRMC, city secretary, Winnsboro

Sherry Roberts, TRMC,
city secretary/office manager, White Oak

Doris Crockett, city secretary, Bullard

Deana McCasland, city secretary, Overton

Khristy Webb, office assistant, Mt. Enterprise

Rosena Becker-Ross,
city secretary/court admin., Mt. Enterprise

Kathy Hoover, TRMC, city secretary, Gilmer

Jennifer Powell, city secretary, Nash

Melba Haralson, TRMC, city secretary, Gladewater

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Panhandle Chapter

By Chapter Secretary **Karen Price, TRMC**
City Secretary, Pampa

The Panhandle Chapter met for our bi-monthly meeting on February 16 at 11:30 a.m. at The Amarillo Club in Amarillo. President Gretchen Mercer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance. She introduced our speaker, Dr. Dave Rausch of West Texas A&M University, and our special guest TMCA 2012 President LeAnn Gallman, TRMC, city secretary, Muleshoe.

President Gallman shared information regarding the upcoming TMCCP Public Funds Investment seminar being held in Waco on April 12-13. She expressed how good a speaker Patrick Shinkle is and encouraged all to try to attend. She also informed us that the City of Muleshoe will be hosting the TML Small Cities Problem Solving Clinic on April 20.

President Mercer was pleased to congratulate Friona Deputy City Secretary Kelly Daniel, TRMC, for receiving her Texas Registered Municipal Clerk



The Panhandle Chapter at their February meeting in Amarillo.

PANHANDLE CHAPTER

Certification. She also recognized other members not in attendance for receiving their TMCCP certification or recertification.

In chapter business, the December 2011 meeting minutes were approved. President Mercer reminded our members that since we are hosting the August 9-10 TMCCP seminar, we would try to have our August chapter meeting immediately following Thursday, August 9 class.

Next Dr. Dave Rausch of West Texas A&M University gave a program on “The Backchannel and Citizen Engagement at Local Government Meetings.” The program focused on city commissioners/council members being able to respond (in real time) to questions from the public sent to them by smart devices during meetings or public hearings.

The next chapter meeting was scheduled to be held on April 19 at The Amarillo Club. ★



Members in attendance at the February meeting were:

- Frances Childers, city secretary, Dalhart
- Machiel Covey, city secretary, Clarendon
- Kelly Daniel, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Friona
- Cheryl Gibson-Salgado, TRMC, city secretary, Spearman
- Gretchen Mercer, city secretary, Canyon
- Karen Price, TRMC, city secretary, Pampa
- Kim Rehkopf, city secretary, Dumas
- Kim Sloat, assistant city secretary, Canadian
- Katy Williams, city secretary, Perryton

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Red River Chapter

By Secretary-Treasurer **Lydia Ozuna, TRMC**
City Clerk, Wichita Falls

The Red River Chapter held their quarterly chapter meeting March 21 at Pasquals Restaurant in Wichita Falls.

Action was taken on Chapter Business, which included approval of the December 7, 2011, minutes and the treasurer's report through March 2012.

A brief brainstorming session was held to discuss viable programs for our chapter. Program suggestions were Open Government Training, Open Records Training, and Notary Training. Several avenues will be explored to provide necessary training since some of the members are unable to attend long-distance seminars.

The TMCCP "Public Funds Investment" seminar (April 12-13 in Waco) and the TMCCP "Agendas, Minutes, Open Government" seminar (June 7-8 in Nassau Bay/Houston) were announced.

Since it is election time in Texas, we took this opportunity to hold a round table discussion on elections, redistricting, and related issues/concerns. It is a meeting that we look forward to because we are able to share with each other and to ask election questions and to request help in our upcoming elections.



Those of us who are conducting elections provided information on our preparations, problems, solutions, as well as asked questions. Everyone participated in the discussion, giving input on how each resolved matters at hand, while others received information to assist them with their elections. It was a valuable exchange of information and ideas. We all went away better informed on elections, as well as with contact information.

Next meeting will be held June 20 at 1:00 p.m. at Pasquals. We invite anyone who wants to visit us to just show up! We welcome you. ★

Members present at the March meeting:

Amy Anderson, city secretary, Lakeside City

Marie Balthrop, TRMC, city secretary, Holliday

Tracy Bankston-Smith, Lakeside City

Barbara Bowman, city clerk, Cashion Community

Janelle Dolan, city clerk, Burkburnett

Kim Hemmi, city secretary, Scotland

Lydia Ozuna, TRMC, city clerk, Wichita Falls

Cathy Mills, Henrietta

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Salt Grass Chapter

By Chapter Secretary **Crystal Roan, TRMC**
Deputy City Secretary, Webster

February Meeting

The Salt Grass Chapter held their monthly meeting on February 8 at The Red Fox in the historic district of the City of Baytown. The meeting was called to order by President Sharon Harris, TRMC, deputy city secretary, La Porte.

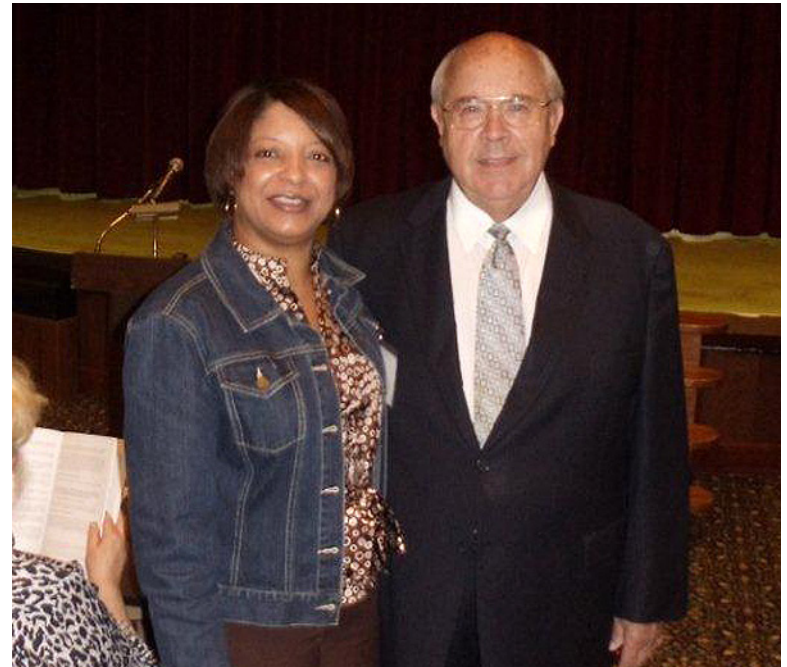
Baytown Assistant City Manager Kevin Troller presented a detailed program regarding “Goal Setting.” The chapter also received information on the progression of the Baytown community.

Thanks to Baytown City Secretary Leticia Brysch and Deputy City Secretary Jason Cozza for hosting the well-attended meeting.

March “Public Information Act” Meeting and Chapter Meeting

The Salt Grass Chapter held its 11th Annual “Public Information Act Seminar” at the Deer Park Courts and Theater Building in Deer Park on March 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Deer Park Mayor Wayne Riddle gave a warm welcome.

The sessions consisted of “Basics of Public Information Act and Processing General Public Information Requests” from the City of La Porte City



Chapter President **Sharon Harris, TRMC**, assistant city secretary, La Porte, and Deer Park Mayor **Wayne Riddle**.

SALT GRASS CHAPTER

Secretary Patrice Fogarty, TRMC; “Records Management, Records Retention, and Disaster Recovery” from Texas State Library and Archives Commission Government Information Analyst Jan Ferrari; and “Public Information Act relating to Law Enforcement Records” from the City of Baytown Police Department Legal Assistant and Open Records Specialist Greg Alicie. Attendance at this seminar was nearly double the previous year.

Our Public Information Act Committee members were: Sandra Watkins, TRMC, city secretary, Deer Park; Jason Cozza, deputy city secretary, Baytown; Dayl Cooksey, deputy city secretary, Sealy; and Krisha Langton, TRMC, city secretary, Sealy. Well done, committee members, for another great meeting.

After the seminar, the chapter held a meeting at the Deer Park Courts and Theater Building. Business included discussion of the annual banquet and discussion of the chapter’s nomination for the TMCA Texas Municipal Clerk of the Year award.

April 2012 Salt Grass Chapter Meeting

The Salt Grass Chapter held its monthly meeting on April 11 at Brio Restaurant in The Woodlands. The City of Huntsville volunteered to host this meeting as part of the “Nominate Your City” program. President Harris called the meeting to order at 11:50 a.m.

Lee Woodward, TRMC, city secretary, Huntsville, thanked all that attended



Chapter President **Sharon Harris, TRMC**, assistant city secretary, La Porte, and speaker **Todd McLane**, McLane Advisors. The chapter was presented with a donation by McLane Advisors for the chapter’s scholarship fund.

SALT GRASS CHAPTER

the meeting and introduced her mayor and city councilmembers in attendance.

Todd and Chad McLane, Investment Advisor Representatives for McLane Advisors, gave an interesting and informative presentation on preparing for future retirement. The chapter was intrigued and excited to learn of the possibilities for retirement investments. On behalf of McLane Advisors, Todd McLane presented a contribution to the chapter's scholarship fund in the amount of \$100. President Harris accepted the contribution and thanked McLane Advisors for their support of the chapter.

The chapter is scheduled to meet again in August. ★

Members in attendance at the March chapter meeting:

Missy Bunch, TRMC, city secretary, Katy

Dayl Cooksey, Deputy city secretary, Sealy

Kristin Edwards, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Huntsville

Patrice Fogarty, TRMC, city secretary, La Porte

Maria Gonzalez, TRMC, city secretary, Missouri City

Sharon Harris, TRMC, deputy city secretary, La Porte

Krishna Langton, TRMC, city secretary, Sealy

Thelma Lenz, TRMC, city secretary, West University Place

Crystal Roan, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Webster

Pauline Small, TRMC, city secretary, Webster

Lee Woodward, TRMC, city secretary, Huntsville

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

South Plains Chapter

By **Sharon Trumble**
City Secretary, New Deal

The South Plains Chapter met on March 21 at Hillcrest Country Club in Lubbock. The meeting was hosted by Sharon Trumble, city secretary, New Deal.

Sharon Trumble introduced Sue Castles with Xcell Energy, Community Service Manager, Texas South. Sue Castles gave a great program on electricity. Xcell Energy provides great company service to our communities.

President Toni Chrestman, TRMC, city secretary, Slaton, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Toni Wilson, TRMC, city secretary (ret.), Sundown, won the door prize donated by Xcell Energy.

The minutes from the December 21, 2011, meeting and the treasurer's report were approved as presented.

Committee Chair Murvat Musa, TRMC, city secretary, Ransom Canyon, gave the report on appointment of Municipal Clerk of the Year. The committee recommended LeAnn Gallman, TRMC, city secretary, Muleshoe, as Texas Municipal



South Plains Chapter members at the March meeting. LeAnn Gallman, TRMC (foreground), city secretary, Muleshoe, was selected as the 2012 Chapter Clerk of the Year and the chapter's nominee for the TMCA Municipal Clerk of the Year.

SOUTH PLAINS CHAPTER

Clerk of the Year Nominee for 2012. LeAnn Gallman was also appointed as the South Plains Chapter Clerk of the Year for 2012.

Maria Hatchett, TRMC, city secretary, Lamesa, will be the chairman for the Nomination Committee Election of Officers, assisted by Sharon Trumble, city secretary, New Deal, and Jodie House, city secretary, Crosbyton.

Jodie House will be the chairman for the Annual Chapter Seminar for 2012, assisted by Renee Wilbanks, city secretary, Idalou, and Jennifer Clements, assistant to the city secretary, Lubbock.

The next meeting was set for June 20 and will be hosted by Belinda Hinojosa, city secretary, Plainview.

Below left: Murvat Musa, TRMC (left), city secretary, Random Canyon, presents the 2012 South Plains Chapter Clerk of the Year award to LeAnn Gallman, TRMC, city secretary, Muleshoe. Below right: Toni Wilson, TRMC (left), city secretary (ret.), Sundown, is presented a gift certificate donated by Sue Castles of Xcell Energy.



SOUTH PLAINS CHAPTER

Members and guests attending the March meeting were:

Jo Ann Beard, TRMC, city secretary, Smyer

Sue Castles, Xcell Energy

Toni Chrestmen, TRMC, city secretary, Slaton

Jennifer Clements, asst. to the city sec., Lubbock

Lora Dockery, city secretary, Sundown

Kami Eady, city secretary, Hale Center

LeAnn Gallman, TRMC, city secretary, Muleshoe

Becky Garza, TRMC, city secretary, Lubbock

Thomas Harris III, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Lubbock

Maria Hatchett, TRMC, city secretary, Lamesa

Jodie House, city secretary, Crosbyton

Sharon Kerby, Slaton

Monica Lopez, city secretary, Lorenzo

Murvat Musa, TRMC, city secretary, Ransom Canyon

Brenda Shaw, TRMC, city sec./manager, Morton

Sharon Trumble, city secretary, New Deal

Beth Walls, TRMC, city secretary, Levelland

Renee Wilbanks, city secretary, Idalou

Toni Wilson, TRMC, city sec. (ret.), Sundown

Guests:

Erin Neitsch, daughter of LeAnn Gallman

Lucero Lopez, son of Monica Lopez

IIMC Bulletins

Karen Mericle, TRMC, city secretary/office manager, Clear Lake Shores, and **Joy Hart, TRMC**, city secretary, Seagoville, have been awarded the Certified Municipal Clerk designation from IIMC.

Clerks can earn the CMC designation through attendance at extensive education programs as well as pertinent experience in a municipality.

Diane Zucco, TRMC, city secretary, Plano, has been awarded the Master Municipal Clerk designation from IIMC.

Clerks can earn the MMC designation by first having earned the CMC designation. After entrance into the Master Municipal Clerk Academy, participants take part in educational, professional, and social contribution components of the academy, as well as embracing a commitment to lifelong learning. Members must pursue educational and professional activities and remain informed of current socio-political, cultural, and economic issues that affect local governments and municipalities.

TMCA Chapters



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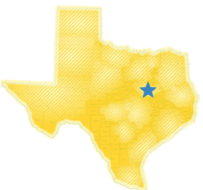
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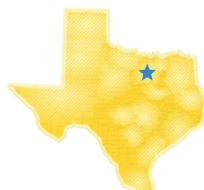
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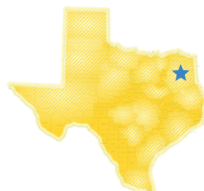
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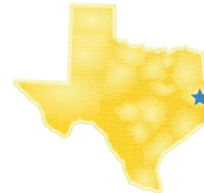
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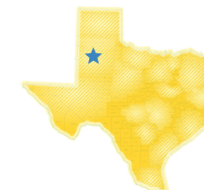
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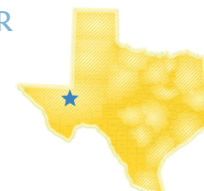
SALT GRASS CHAPTER

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2012 TMCA Officers & Committees

Officers

<p>President LeAnn Gallman City Secretary, Muleshoe 215 S First St Muleshoe, TX 79347 806-272-4528 806-272-5260 FAX lgallman@fivearea.com</p>	<p>Pres. Elect Norma Grimaldo City Secretary, Odessa PO Box 4398 Odessa, TX 79760 432-335-3276 432-335-4160 FAX ngrimaldo@odessa-tx.gov</p>	<p>Vice President Art Camacho City Secretary, Haltom City PO Box 14246 Haltom City, TX 76117 817-222-7749 817-834-7237 FAX acamacho@haltomcitytx.com</p>	<p>Secretary Linda Knight City Secretary, Breckenridge 105 N Rose Breckenridge, TX 76424 254-559-8287 254-559-7322 FAX city@wtconnect.com</p>	<p>Treasurer Sherry Mashburn City Secretary, College Station PO Box 9960 College Station, TX 77842 979-764-3541 979-764-6377 FAX smashburn@cstx.gov</p>	<p>Immediate Past President Mary Kayser City Secretary, Fort Worth 1000 Throckmorton St Fort Worth, TX 76102-6311 817-392-6161 817-392-6196 FAX mary.kayser@fortworthtexas.gov</p>
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TRUSTEES

<p>Marie Balthrop City Secretary, Holliday PO Box 508 Holliday, TX 76366 940-586-1313 940-586-1107 FAX hollidayadmin@srcaccess.net</p>	<p>Cheryl Gibson-Salgado City Sec./Asst. City Mgr., Spearman PO Box 37 Spearman, TX 79081 806-659-2524 806-659-3859 FAX citysec@ptsi.net</p>	<p>Lydia Lopez City Secretary, Hewitt PO Box 610 Hewitt, TX 76643 254-666-6171 254-666-6014 FAX citysecretary@cityofhewitt.com</p>	<p>Pauline Small City Secretary, Webster 101 Pennsylvania Webster, TX 77598 281-316-4101 281-316-4119 FAX psmall@cityofwebster.com</p>	<p>Scarlet Swoboda City Secretary, Victoria PO Box 1758 Victoria, TX 77902 361-485-3040 361-485-3045 FAX sswoboda@victoriatx.org</p>	<p>Sandra Watkins City Secretary, Deer Park PO Box 700 Deer Park, TX 77536 281-478-7247 281-542-9796 FAX skwatkins@deerparktx.org</p>
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EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS: *Advisory Management Committee Chair Lydia Ozuna, city secretary, Wichita Falls; Peggy Burnside, TMCCP/TMCA Administrative Director*

Committees

Advisory Management Committee

Lydia Ozuna, Wichita Falls, Past President, Chair
Norma Grimaldo, Odessa, President Elect
LeAnn Gallman, Muleshoe, President
Mary Kayser, Garland, Immediate Past Pres.
Shelley George, Allen, Certification Comm. Chair
Peggy Burnside, TMCCP/TMCA Admin. Dir. *

Audit Committee

Melba Haralson, Gladewater, Chair
Brenda Craig, Kerrville
Laure Morgan, Hemphill
Art Camacho, Haltom City, Board Liaison

Historian

Suzanne Finch, Hereford

Membership Committee

(Comprised of **Chapter Presidents**)
Krishna Langton, Sealy, Chair
Lydia Lopez, Hewitt, Board Liaison

*non-voting member

Municipal Clerk of the Year Committee

Linda Rhodes, Lake Worth, Chair
Michele Glaser, Seabrook
Jenny Page, Frisco
Jennifer Reyna, Alamo Heights
Brenda Shaw, Morton
Kathy Wingo, Lucas
Pauline Small, Webster, Board Liaison

Nominating Committee

Toni Chrestman, Slaton, chair
Toni Milam, Buda
Saundra Passailaigue, Shavano Park
Christi Shivers, Mexia
Angela Winkle, Crowley
Norma Grimaldo, Odessa, Board Liaison
LeAnn Gallman, Muleshoe, Board Liaison

Open Records Steering Committee

Amanda McCrory, Burleson

Resolutions Committee

Diane Zucco, Plano, Chair
Tina Broussard, Beaumont
Crystal Roan, Webster
Sherry Roberts, White Oak
Leticia Vacek, San Antonio
Sandra Watkins, Deer Park, Board Liaison

Retirement Committee

Linda Byers, Vernon, Chair
Zanea Carpenter, Muleshoe
Peggy Cimics, Cibolo
Amanda McCrory, Burleson
Gail Weir, Ore City
Scarlet Swoboda, Victoria, Board Liaison

Scholarship Committee

Rebecca Garza, Lubbock, Chair
Ron Gonzales, Fort Worth
Carole Vanzant, Fair Oaks Ranch
Christie Wilson, The Colony
Cara McPartland, Wimberley
Lee Woodward, Huntsville
Peggy Burnside, TMCCP/TMCA Admin. Dir.
Cheryl Gibson-Salgado, Spearman, Board Liaison

Technology Committee

Patrice Fogarty, La Porte, Co-Chair
Shelley George, Allen, Co-Chair
Karen Mericle, Clear Lake Shores

TML Booth Committee

Kim Sutter, Euless, Chair
North Texas & Lone Star Chapter Members

TML Representative

Norma Grimaldo, Odessa, President Elect

Certification Committee

<p>Shelley George, Chair City Secretary, Allen 305 Century Pkwy Allen, TX 75013 214-509-4105; Fx 214-509-4118 sgeorge@cityofallen.org</p>	<p>Melissa Brunner City Secretary, Flatonia PO Box 329 Flatonia, TX 78941 361-865-3548; Fx 361-865-2817 mbrunner@ci.flatonia.tx.us</p>	<p>Danette Dunlap City Secretary, Abilene PO Box 60 Abilene, TX 79604 325-676-6202; Fx 325-676-6229 danette.dunlap@abilenetx.com</p>	<p>Aimee Nemer City Secretary, Murphy 206 N Murphy Rd Murphy, TX 75094 972-468-4011; Fx 972-468-4012 anemer@murphytx.org</p>	<p>Beth Walls City Secretary, Levelland PO Box 1010 Levelland, TX 79336 806-894-0113; Fx 806-894-0119 bwalls@levellandtexas.org</p>	<p>Peggy Burnside Admin. Dir., TMCCP/TMCA 1155 Union Cir #305067 Denton, TX 76203 940-565-3488; Fx 940-565-2012 peggy.burnside@unt.edu</p>
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EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS: *LeAnn Gallman, TMCA President; Norma Grimaldo, TMCA President Elect; and Mary Kayser, TMCA Immediate Past President*