



TMCA NEWS

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President's Message

TMCA, Inc., has been busy looking for ways to better serve you. I have thoroughly enjoyed visiting various chapters. It's awesome to be treated like royalty! These visits have allowed me the opportunity to listen to your ideas, concerns, and recommendations. I appreciate the hospitality.

Cities are preparing budgets for the next fiscal year. Travel and training, along with other services, will be tough. As laws and regulations change, municipal clerks will need to stay abreast of changes and procedures as they relate to our profession. It may be hard for municipal clerks to achieve the necessary training due to some of the budget challenges. This year, we had a high number of municipal clerks apply for TMCCP and major educational scholarships, which is a good



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TMCA President Patricia Ervin, TRMC City Secretary, Waco

congratulations on record membership!

★ **926** ★
members

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

thing. It is wonderful to see that so many municipal clerks have an interest in education and a desire to gain more knowledge. Although we did not have funds to support all applicants, I appreciate those of you who submitted the application form. I encourage you to keep submitting those applications. And don't forget about your local chapter: some chapters have established scholarship funds to assist with education and travel expenses. I know they stand ready to help if funds are available and you meet all the criteria for the scholarship award.

Texas clerks will host the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) **Region IV Meeting and Educational Training** scheduled to be held on December 3, 4, 5, in San Marcos, Texas. This meeting's attendees will



TMCA President Patricia Ervin, TRMC, installed the 2010 TMCA Coastal Bend Chapter officers during her visit to the chapter in August. [See [page 25](#).]

consist of municipal clerks from Louisiana, Oklahoma, Mississippi, Arkansas, and of course, Texas. Mr. Mark Towers of "Speak Out Seminars" will be our educational speaker on Friday, December 4. I know you will support our IIMC President Mary Lynne Stratta and the Region IV delegation. Mark your calendar for this event!

TMCA continues to grow, new city clerks come on board, and "seasoned" city clerks prepare to retire. The TMCA membership consists of 926 municipal clerks, assistants, and deputies. The Membership Committee is sponsoring a membership contest. If a current TMCA member submits the name of a newly hired municipal clerk/city secretary to the TMCA Membership Committee Chair, your name will be entered into a contest to be

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Alexandra Burke; Peggy Burnside, TRMC; Miriam Sheehan, TRMC; Joyce Snay, TRMC

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Send articles to: alexandra.burke@unt.edu

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

awarded in December 2009. If the new clerk subsequently joins TMCA, the current member's name will be entered again. Two opportunities to be a grand prize winner of a TMCCP seminar registration! **Don't miss this opportunity.** Contact: Jennifer Canady, TRMC, city secretary, Woodway, at jcanady@woodway-texas.com. Thank you to Jennifer and the TMCA Membership Committee for your hard work on this.

TMCA solicits your feedback and your assistance through service on TMCA committees. Your service on committees helps to promote and provide guidance and leadership for the overall good of the organization. If you have not yet applied for a 2010 TMCA committee and are still interested in serving, contact President Elect **Pam Schmidt, TRMC**. All the committees are important, and this is an opportunity for you to share your knowledge, skills and ideas. I am confident you will do a great job on any of the committees you are selected to serve on.

Let's continue to have fun while fulfilling our responsibilities and professional duties as Municipal Clerks!

Trish

Patricia Ervin, TRMC
2009 TMCA President

thank you 

to the

North Texas Chapter

for its generous donations to the

Dorothy F. Byrd
& Dr. Joyce Snay
Scholarship Funds

thank you 

to the

Lone Star Chapter

for its generous donation to the

Dr. Joyce Snay
Scholarship Fund



Our annual Association events are here!

Join us Thursday, *October 8*
at *San Antonio's* historic
Menger Hotel for the TMCA
Annual Business Meeting
and *Annual Awards Banquet*,
held in conjunction with the
TMCCP Graduate Institute.

TMCA Annual Business Meeting, Thursday, October 8, 11:30 a.m. [[learn more](#)]
Includes the 2008 minutes, treasurer's report, election of 2010 officers, and 2009 resolutions.

TMCA Annual Awards Banquet, Thursday, October 8, 5:30 p.m. [[learn more & register](#)]
Includes recognition of 2009 retirees, scholarship awards, presentation of the 2009 TMCA Municipal Clerk of the Year, the installation of 2010 TMCA officers, and the 2010 president's acceptance speech. Dress is "after five" or dressy fiesta-themed attire. The two-hour banquet has been scheduled earlier this year to accommodate those attendees who are interested in a stroll on the famous San Antonio Riverwalk afterward.

TMCCP SEMINAR

Graduate Institute:

Achieving and Sustaining Excellence In Your Personal and Professional Life

October 8-9, 2009, San Antonio, Texas • *Early Registration Deadline: September 23*



Speaker Judy King, QMS

If you are interested in strengthening relationships and building a firm foundation for excellence and then sustaining it, you will enjoy this seminar. Three “building blocks” of excellence (expectations, equipping, and evaluation) and three enemies of excellence will be introduced and explored, with practical applications included for both your professional and personal life. You will also gain insight into how you can relate better to people by understanding your own behavior preferences and those of others. Finally, you will learn how to become more adept at addressing and resolving the inevitable conflict that exists, even in the best of organizations and relationships.

Speaker Judy Z. King is the founder and principal of **Quality Management Services**. Since 1988, QMS has been providing solutions to organizational improvement and people development challenges. Areas of expertise include customer service, quality management, team building, operational training and evaluation systems, management development, and strategic planning. ([learn more about speaker Judy King](#))

REGISTER NOW

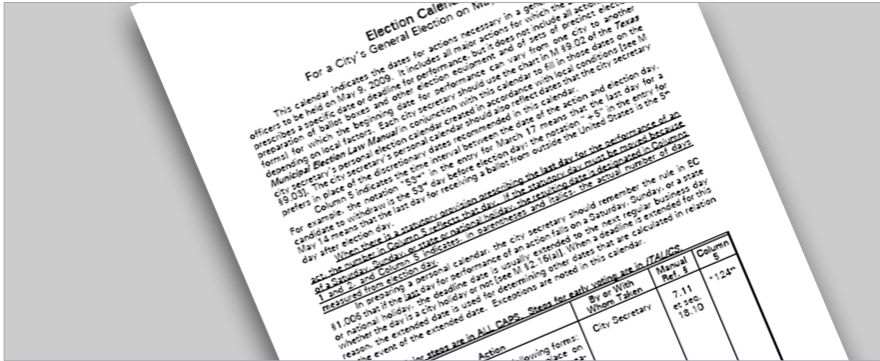
Anyone is welcome to register for this seminar! Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program or Recertification Program enrollees can receive seminar attendance credit (Course 1 credit for Certification Program enrollees). This seminar also features special events such as the [TMCA Annual Business Meeting and Annual Awards Banquet](#), and an opportunity to tour the [City of San Antonio's Municipal Records Facility](#). [Learn more and register today.](#)

TMCA Bulletins

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TMCCP seminar attendees: We're upgrading from paper surveys to online surveys! After each seminar, we will send a notice to the email address on your registration form directing you to a brief survey hosted by SurveyMonkey. This is a faster, efficient—and greener!—alternative, and we're looking forward to your continued assistance in tailoring our education seminars to meet your needs.



The annual free **May election calendar** by *Texas Municipal Election Law Manual* author **Analeslie Muncy** will be available in October! We will post notice on our website, and email all TMCA members a download link.



The upcoming **TMCCP Election Law Seminar** will be held **January 11-13, 2010**, at the **Sheraton Grand Hotel DFW** in Irving. We'll be sending you announcements via postcard and email. We look forward to seeing you in Irving!

PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITY

TMCA Booth at the TML Conference

By TML Booth Committee Chair Codi Delcambre, TRMC, Town Secretary, Argyle

Volunteer to serve with your fellow members at TMCA's booth at the TML Conference in Fort Worth this October



Codi Delcambre, TRMC

TMCA, Inc., and TMCCP are looking for a few volunteers to help represent and spread the word about our wonderful organizations. We have a great upcoming opportunity to do just that at the Texas Municipal League Conference on **October 21-23** at the **Fort Worth Convention Center**. The members and volunteers serving in our booth will be sharing information about TMCA and TMCCP with city officials from all over our great state. We need members who can be informative as to how important our many roles are in the day-to-day function of the cities that we support as well as our respective organizations.

Please contact **Codi Delcambre, TRMC**, town secretary, Argyle, or **Carissa Finney**, administrative assistant, Argyle, at 940-464-7273 to sign up a time to share. ★



PROFILE

2009 Certification Committee

By Certification Committee Chair Rebecca Garza, TRMC, City Secretary, Lubbock

*The TMCA Certification Committee promotes the **Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program** and sets the policies and procedures for the operation of the Certification Program. This is a brief introduction of the TMCA members who have comprised this vital committee in 2009.*

Chair Becky Garza, TRMC City Secretary, Lubbock

Becky Garza, TRMC, was appointed city secretary for the City of Lubbock in 2001. She has served the city since 1996. She began as an accountant and was subsequently promoted to senior accountant. Before working for the City of Lubbock, she was an accountant for Texas Tech University.

Becky is a graduate of Texas Tech University with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance and a Master of Public Administration. She received her TRMC Certification (No. 420) in January 2003, recertified in 2008, and is currently enrolled



*From left to right: **Susie Quinn, TRMC**, city secretary, Rowlett; **Lydia Lopez, TRMC**, city secretary, Hewitt; **Chair Rebecca Garza, TRMC**, city secretary, Lubbock; **Sandra Watkins, TRMC**, city secretary, Deer Park; **Peggy Burnside, TRMC**, administrative director, TMCCP/TMCA, Inc.; and **Shelley George, TRMC**, city secretary, Allen.*

2009 CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE

*Chair Becky Garza, TRMC
(continued)*

in her second recertification program.

Becky co-authored Chapter 15, "Professional Etiquette & Protocol," in the eighth edition of the *Texas Municipal Clerks Handbook*. She served four years as an instructor at the Election Law Seminar for TMCCP. Becky has also served on the TMCA Municipal Clerk of the Year Committee. She is a member of TMCA, the South Plains Chapter of TMCA, the International Institute of Municipal Clerks, Leadership Texas, Texas Tech Chancellor's Hispanic Enrollment Task Force, Lubbock

ISD Advisory Committee, and the Hospice of Lubbock Foundation Board.

"One very important thing we can do in our lifetime is to encourage others. TMCA, through the Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program (TMCCP), provides that encouragement to all of us associated with the program. I am honored to have the opportunity to encourage my peers through my service on the Certification Committee. It is very rewarding to help others see their true potential."

*Shelley George, TRMC
City Secretary, Allen*

Shelley George, TRMC, was appointed city secretary for the City of Allen in 2003. She began her service to the City of Allen in 1997 as the secretary to the department and was subsequently promoted to assistant city secretary. Before working for the City of Allen, she was employed at the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission.

Shelley is a graduate of Lamar University with a Bachelor of Applied Arts and Science. She received her TRMC Certification (No. 394) in January 2002, recertified in 2007, and is currently enrolled in her second recertification program.

In her service to TMCA, Shelley has served as a member

of the Technology Committee, Resolution Committee, and Retirement Committee. She is a member of TMCA, the Lone Star Municipal Chapter of TMCA, the North Texas Municipal Chapter of TMCA, the International Institute of Municipal Clerks, ARMA International, Allen Community Outreach Advisory Committee, and the Allen High Noon Lions Club.

"I am honored to have the opportunity to serve the TMCA membership on the Certification Committee. Through my service, I will work with the Committee members, TMCA Board, and directors to continue strengthening the TMCCP in setting policies and procedures for the program."

2009 CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Lydia Lopez, TRMC City Secretary, Hewitt

Lydia Lopez, TRMC, was introduced to public service in 1986. She was hired by the former city secretary for the City of Waco, Nana Cornwell. Having obtained her Associates Degree in Management Development, Lydia sought a career that would make the most of her background and education. Little did she know that working for a municipality would not just be another job, but would become her passion and profession.

During her tenure at the City of Waco, she acquired 20 years of experience in municipal government. Learning all aspects of the office, she was promoted to assistant city secretary in 1997. Through the encouragement and support of the city of Waco, Lydia began her professional training through the Certification Program. She reached a major milestone by earning the Texas Registered Municipal Clerk Certification in January 2001 (No. 376). She was recertified in January 2006, and at this time is currently working toward her second recertification.

In January 2007 Lydia was offered the opportunity to

serve Hewitt as city secretary. Former City Manager Dennis Woodard appointed her to replace retiring city secretary Becky Frels, and Lydia has served in that capacity since that time.

Service to the state Association and her local chapter of TMCA has always been important to her. She currently serves as president of the Central Texas Chapter and has also served in the capacity of vice president, secretary, and historian. She continues to play an active role in TMCA through her participation on a number of committees that include Scholarship, Retirement and Resolutions Committees. In 2009 she was appointed by President Patricia Ervin to serve on the Certification Committee.

“Service to our state Association is an honor and a privilege. I take this responsibility seriously and strive to enhance the educational opportunities of my peers and colleagues. I appreciate this opportunity to lead and will do my part to make our Association the finest educational tool available to all municipal clerks and employees.”

Susie Quinn, TRMC City Secretary, Rowlett

Susie Quinn, TRMC, began her career in city government with the City of Eastland in June of 1994 as city secretary. She held the position until March 1999 when she was appointed city secretary for Tye. In December 2000, she was appointed city secretary in Azle, and then in December 2002 she moved to Rowlett, where she is now city secretary.

Susie received her TRMC Certification in January 1997 (No. 295), recertified in 2002 and 2007, and is currently enrolled in her third recertification. She was awarded the Dorothy F. Byrd Scholarship in 2002.

Susie is a member of the North Texas Municipal Clerks Association Chapter of TMCA and has served as

2009 CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Susie Quinn, TRMC (continued)

historian, treasurer, secretary, vice president, president, and immediate past president. She is also a member of the Lone Star Chapter. Susie was a charter member of the Bluebonnet Chapter and served as its first president. She was honored as the Bluebonnet Chapter Municipal Clerk of the Year in 1995 and as North Texas Clerk of the Year in 2005. She co-authored Chapter 10, "Board and

Commissions and Constitutional Oath of Office," in the eighth edition of the *Texas Municipal Clerks Handbook*.

"It has been such a privilege to serve on the Certification Committee. The Texas Certification Program is one of the best in the nation. Committed clerks and secretaries will excel in their profession if they take advantage of the professional educational program offered."

Sandra Watkins, TRMC City Secretary, Deer Park

Sandra Watkins, TRMC, began her career in municipal government as the deputy city secretary for the City of Deer Park in 1985, and was promoted to city secretary in 1992. She received her TRMC Certification (No. 362) in January 2000, recertified in 2005, and is currently working on her second recertification. Sandra received the designation of Certified Municipal Clerk through IIMC in June 2004, and recertification in 2008. She was awarded the Dorothy F. Byrd Scholarship in 2004, the Municipal Code Corporation Scholarship in 2005, the Laserfiche Scholarship in 2006, and the Municipal Code Corporation Innovations Records Management Scholarship in 2008.

Sandra has served the Salt Grass Chapter of TMCA in all officer capacities, was chapter president in 1998-1999, and has served on or chaired all committees. She received the chapter's Municipal Clerk of the Year award in 2000. She has served as a member of the TMCA Audit, Nominating, and Certification committees,

and has chaired the TMCA TML Booth, Resolutions, Scholarship Committee, and was TMCA Historian in 2001. Sandra hosts the Salt Grass Chapter's annual Public Information Workshop, has been co-presenter for the Houston-Galveston Area Council Election Workshop since 2007, and a co-presenter of TMCA's Election Law Seminar on Early Voting since 2009.

"My participation in the Texas Municipal Clerks Association has empowered me to be a better individual, both personally and professionally, and the benefits of being a member have brought unimaginable insight and knowledge. TMCA is an association that offers the best educational programs in the nation. It has been an honor and privilege to be a member of the Certification Program Committee, and to have the opportunity to work with such a wonderful group of professionals who are committed to ensuring that any Texas clerk has the opportunity to succeed in their chosen profession." ★

Texas Municipal League Report

By TML Representative Mary Kayser, TRMC, City Secretary, Garland



Mary Kayser, TRMC

TML Board of Directors Meeting El Paso—June 18 and 19

The TML Board of Directors met in El Paso, home of TML President John Cook. Thursday evening the Board and their guests enjoyed dinner at the historic Plaza Theater in downtown El Paso.

On Friday the TML Board of Director held their meeting. TML is accepting applications for TML President Elect. More information on this process and the qualifications will be communicated to all member cities and was printed in the July issue of the *Texas Town & City* magazine.

The Board received reports from TML staff on litigation and the legislative session. On the litigation front the case of most interest is the City of Alpine Open Meetings suit that was sent back to the trial court from the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals with instructions to the trial court to look at the case again with a focus on free speech issues. This lawsuit may bring some changes to the Texas Open Meetings Act after it finishes making its rounds through the courts.



"El Paso and Juarez" by flickr user dmitri_66. Photo licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial 2.0 Generic License.

In regards to the legislative session, the opinion of the TML staff is that the session was neutral, nothing too terrible but nothing that solved all our issues either. The sheer volume of bills that were filed choked the system. There was no increase in state taxes for transportation and no approval of a local option for transportation funding either.

TEXAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE REPORT

Other bills of note:

HB 2291 modified and added language that must be used whenever a city adopts a tax rate that exceeds the effective rate.

HB 1720 dealing with Political Advertising among other things requires the Teas Ethics Commission to provide a written advisory opinion as to whether a particular communication relating to a measure does or does not comply with the law if requested by a political subdivision that has ordered an election on a measure.

HB 773 extending the authority of cities to enter into new tax abatement agreements until 9/1/2019

HB 360 TMRS – this bill is exactly what TMRS wanted and what will get them where they need to go.

HB 1174 – provides that a city may pay actual property damages caused by the backup of the city's sanitary sewer system regardless of whether the city would have been liable under the Texas Tort Claim Act and it does not waive governmental immunity.

There is also a HJR regarding eminent domain that will be on the November 3, 2009 ballot.

These are just a few that were highlighted during our meeting. The June 11, 2009, TML Legislative Update has a list of the bills and TML will be providing updates throughout the summer.

We talked about whether a special session would be called, and the TML staff was pretty confident that one would be called – and what do you know, on June 25 Governor Perry called a special session to start July 1. The topics included are:

1. The five state agencies under Sunset review that were left unfinished:
 TxDOT
 Texas Department of Insurance (TDI)
 Texas Racing Commission
 Office of Public Insurance Counsel
 Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation
2. Legislation regarding the issuance of general obligation bonds already authorized by voters, and the creation of a Texas Transportation Revolving Fund (referring Carona's SB 263)
3. Legislation regarding the use of Comprehensive Development Agreements by TxDOT and Regional Mobility Authorities

The Board's last piece of business action was to adopt the TML Operating Budget for FY 2009-2010. TML is in good fiscal shape and will be able to continue to prove their services to municipalities. ★

IIMC News

By IIMC President Mary Lynne Stratta, TRMC, City Secretary, Bryan



Mary Lynne Stratta, TRMC

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It is a busy time for IIMC. In mid-August, the Budget and Planning Committee will meet to prepare the 2010 IIMC budget to be presented to the IIMC Board of Directors at the mid-year Board meeting. I have charged this committee with preparing a balanced budget and, for the first time in IIMC's history, a three-year financial forecast and multi-year capital needs plan. I believe it is important with the current state of the economy that we plan ahead and that we be as financially conservative as possible. I have been extremely frugal with IIMC's money, using IIMC's bank of frequent flyer miles for my travels, and I have articulated my expectation to the rest of the Board that they be as frugal as possible when traveling on IIMC's behalf. Along that line, I asked that our Conference Planner and Executive Director go out for bids for the site location for the IIMC Board's mid-year board meeting. I had three criteria for the location: 1) Cheap; 2) Cheap; and 3) Cheap! We received an extremely good bid from Albuquerque, New Mexico, and holding our mid-year meeting at that location will bring in the cost of the Board meeting below budget. It also provides the best value for our MCEF Board members, who donate their travel costs to MCEF. I would encourage future IIMC presidents to follow a bid process rather than just selecting a location, as has been the practice in the past. Every dollar we save is a dollar we can redirect to educational endeavors to benefit our members.

At the mid-year meeting, the IIMC Board will continue its work to develop IIMC's first membership-driven long-range strategic plan. The Board will adopt the strategic plan at the Board meeting held in conjunction with the May 2010 conference.

The Program Review/Certification Committee and the Education/Professional Growth Committee have been working extremely hard to address ongoing issues with the current education guidelines. These two committees will come forward with strong recommendations for the Board to consider at the mid-year meeting (November 6-7). Prior to that, our state education committees and institute directors will be asked

IIMC News

to provide feedback regarding the committee recommendations. If you have concerns and/or have experienced problems with the current education/certification guidelines and would like to see positive changes made to improve the program, I would encourage you to articulate those concerns and suggestions to your IIMC Region Directors prior to the mid-year meeting. I am hopeful the Board will take action at the mid-year meeting to correct as many of these issues as possible so that we can move forward with meaningful, achievable, affordable certification for all of our members.

Our Membership Committee has launched the new Region of the Month program. Each region will be featured in an article in the *IIMC News Digest*. Region IV will be featured in the November issue. The Small Cities Task Force will be disseminating a survey to our small city members (less than 1,500 population) in the near future. The Policy Review Committee will be bringing to the Board several recommendations for new policies, changes in policies and proposed IIMC constitutional amendments to make sure that IIMC operates in the most efficient, ethical manner possible.



At the IMASA conference banquet, Polokwane, South Africa. From left to right: **JJ** and IIMC President **Mary Lynne Stratta, TRMC**, city secretary, Bryan; **Hans** and IMASA President **Ria Heitbrink**; **Jonathan** and **Deborah Bourne** (Mr. Bourne represented the Society of Local Council Clerks [UK]).

Using IIMC frequent flyer points, I attended the Institute of Municipal Administrators of South Africa conference held in Polokwane, South Africa, June 16-19. IMASA's objectives and founding values have at their heart the promotion of sound, professional and ethical municipal administration, serving the best interests of the profes-

IIMC NEWS

sion of municipal administration and the development and growth of its members in the profession. IMASA is working to establish an IIMC approved institute in South Africa. IIMC has approved their curriculum plan and IMASA is now working on funding and national government approval of their certification program prior to implementation. I had the opportunity address the delegates twice during the program. I discovered through my visit that the United States and South Africa are more alike than we are different, and that we share many common problems and challenges. I believe my visit helped to strengthen the partnership between IIMC and IMASA and I look forward to signing a new affiliation agreement with IMASA this year. I again want to thank IMASA Past President Selby Gibbs, IMASA President Ria Heitbrink, and Host Clerk Barry Viljoen for their warm and gracious hospitality. South Africa hopes to host the IIMC 2011 study tour and I would encourage you to not miss the opportunity to visit this beautiful country and its warm and friendly people.

The IIMC 2009 study tour to Wales/England has met the minimum number of registrants. Additional information about this unique opportunity to learn about local government best practices in other countries is available on [IIMC's website](#). The cost is very affordable and there is still an opportunity to participate.

Once again using IIMC frequent flyer points, I participated in the

Reno conference site visit in July. We had the honor of meeting Reno Mayor Bob Cashell, who pledged the City of Reno's support to make the conference a rewarding experience for our members. The host hotel, the [Grand Sierra Resort](#), has lowered our conference room rate for a standard room to \$99/night. The Grand Sierra offers a free shuttle service to/from the Reno airport and a wide variety of dining venues from fast food to fine dining. Attendance at the conference should be affordable for our members. Most importantly, the Nevada Institute Director, host committee, and IIMC staff are developing an impressive and outstanding educational program for the conference.

The IIMC Region IV meeting will be held in San Marcos, Texas, December 3-5. I hope as many Texas clerks as possible attend since we are hosting the regional conference this year.

I look forward to visiting with as many of our members as possible this year. I am always available to visit with you. My phone number is 979-209-5005 and my email is mstratta@bryantx.gov.

Thank you again for the honor of serving as your 2009-2010 IIMC President.

Mary Lynne Stratta, TRMC, MMC
IIMC President

IIMC NEWS

make plans to attend the IIMC Region IV Meeting

*December 3-5, San Marcos, Texas
Embassy Suites*

*The program by Mark Towers
of Speak Out Seminars will feature:*

How to **maximize** the only three tools
in your personal tool kit:
your talent, your motivation, and your self-talk.

The Hero's Journey:
the best motivational, inspirational, and
"how to deal with change" model that exists.

The PBS Formula™ for alleviating stress
and dealing with your day-to-day challenges.

Learn more and register today.

IIMC Bulletins

Shanae Jennings, TRMC, city secretary, Bedford, has been awarded the Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) designation from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks, and **Shirley Gentry**, city clerk, Austin, and **Lydia Ozuna, TRMC**, city clerk, Wichita Falls, have been awarded the Master Municipal Clerk (MMC) designation.

The CMC designation program is designed to enhance the job performance of the clerk in small and large municipalities. A municipal clerk can earn the CMC designation by attending extensive education programs, as well as having pertinent experience in a municipality.

The MMC is one of the two professional designations granted by IIMC. To qualify for entrance into the Master Municipal Academy (MMCA), which prepares participants for achieving the MMC status, one must have earned the CMC designation. The MMCA is an advanced continuing education program that prepares participants to perform more complex municipal duties. The program has an extensive and rigorous educational component, a professional and social contributions component, and a commitment to lifelong learning. The Academy members must demonstrate that they have actively pursued educational and professional activities and have remained informed of current socio-political, cultural, and economic issues that affect local governments and municipalities. ★

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Alamo Chapter

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

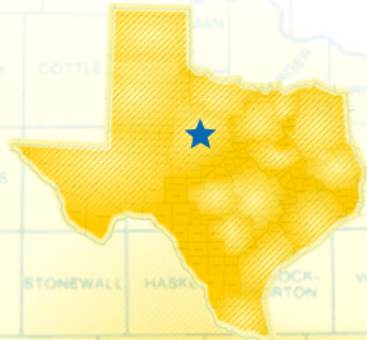
City of San Antonio Municipal Records Facility Tour

Please join us on Friday, October 9, after the **TMCCP Graduate Institute Seminar**, for a tour of the 60,000 square foot San Antonio Municipal Records Facility. To register for the tour and transportation, sign up at the registration table. The tour will start at 3:30 p.m. with a light reception for those attending. Transportation will be provided back to the Menger Hotel. For more information, please contact Alamo Chapter Treasurer Jennifer Reyna at 210-832-2209 or via email at jreyna@alamoheightstx.gov. ★



Photo of downtown San Antonio by J. Leethy, courtesy San Antonio Convention & Visitors Bureau

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS



Bluebonnet Chapter

By **Nancy Turnbow**
City Secretary, Baird

The Bluebonnet Chapter met at the Community Room in the City of Bronte on June 10. President Shirley Stuart, city secretary, Eastland, presided over the meeting. Pat Martindale, city secretary, Bronte, introduced the city council and staff members. ★

Those present at the June meeting included:

Virginia Dill, city secretary, Cisco

Troy Emery, city secretary, Ranger

Karen Lou Graham, chief financial officer, Anson

Linda Knight, TRMC, city secretary, Breckenridge

Diane Latham, assistant city secretary, Breckenridge

Pat Martindale, city secretary, Bronte

Frankie Mayfield, Tuscola city council

Billie Pierce, city secretary, Tuscola

Shirley Stuart, city secretary, Eastland

Kay Torres, city secretary, Robert Lee

Susan Trotter, city secretary, Stamford

Nancy Turnbow, city secretary, Baird

Louetta Wallace, city secretary, Haskell

Christi Wynn, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Brownwood

Guests included Gerald Sandusky, mayor of Bronte; Jim Guthrie, Bronte city council; Jennifer Stango, Bronte city council; and Tammy Thorn, assistant city secretary, Bronte.



TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Capital Chapter

By Chapter Secretary **Debbie Chelf, TRMC**
City Secretary, Hutto

The Capital Chapter met on July 24 in Salado. President Teresa Valdez, TRMC, city secretary, Bastrop, called the meeting to order.

Capital Chapter Clerk of the Year

President Teresa Valdez presented Debbie Chelf, TRMC, city secretary, Hutto, with the 2009 Capital Chapter Clerk of the Year award in recognition of her work establishing guidelines and then serving as chairman of the Nomination Committee for Capital Chapter Municipal Clerk of the Year and the Scholarship Reimbursement Program.

Capital Chapter Scholarship Program

The following amendments were made to the chapter's Scholarship Program:

- \$1,200.00 be set aside by the chapter treasurer for the Scholarship Fund



Debbie Chelf, TRMC (*left*), city secretary, Hutto, is presented the 2009 Municipal Clerk of the Year from the Capital Chapter President Teresa Valdez, TRMC, city secretary, Bastrop.

CAPITAL CHAPTER

- One scholarship will be awarded per quarter on a first-come first-served basis
- Qualifications for award will be based on a member's:
 - Participation in the Texas Municipal Clerks Certification or Recertification Program
 - Participation in the certification program of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks
 - Regular attendance at chapter meetings
 - Regular involvement in the chapter

Region IV Meeting in San Marcos in December

San Marcos City Clerk Sherry Mashburn, TRMC, reported that the City of San Marcos will host the International Institute of Municipal Clerks Region IV meeting at the Embassy Suites Hotel on December 3, 4, and 5. Mark Towers will be the keynote speaker on Friday, December 4. A business meeting will be held on Saturday, December 5.

IIMC Report by IIMC President Mary Lynne Stratta

IIMC President Mary Lynne Stratta, TRMC, city secretary, Bryan, gave an IIMC report and update, as well as news of her recent trip to Africa to offer IIMC mentorship programs.

Capital Chapter Meeting Schedule

September 16, 2009 – Round Rock

November 2009 – Hutto

January 2010 - Bryan

Attendees present at the July meeting:

Rachel Austin, deputy city clerk, Liberty Hill

Cynthia Bowman, TRMC, assistant city secretary, Bryan

Betty Brown, TRMC,
local government/election specialist, Bickerstaff Heath

Chapter Vice President Melissa Brunner, TRMC,
city secretary, Flatonia

Jodi Chaney, Bryan

Chance Chatham, city secretary/court clerk, Point Venture

Chapter Secretary Debbie Chelf, TRMC, city secretary, Hutto

Kathy Clark, city secretary/administrator, Liberty Hill

Shirley Garvel, city secretary, Elgin

Shelley Goodwin, deputy city clerk, San Marcos

Linda Hambrick, city secretary, Jonestown

Chapter Historian Amy Harris, city secretary, Cameron

Sherry Mashburn, TRMC, city clerk, San Marcos

Cara McPartland, city secretary, Wimberley

Toni Milam, TRMC, city secretary, Buda

Brenda Page, city secretary, Smithville

Faye Scott, College Station

Mary Lynne Stratta, TRMC, city secretary, Bryan

Chapter President Teresa Valdez, TRMC,
city secretary, Bastrop

Tasha Velasco, College Station

Jennifer Zufelt, city secretary, Volente

CAPITAL CHAPTER

ANNUAL SALADO CONFERENCE, JULY 24-25

The Capital and the Central Texas Chapters held their annual joint conference in Salado on July 24-25. Approximately 45 people attended and received innovative tools from keynote speaker Kathy Moore to deal with stress. Kathy has conducted lectures and seminars regarding human potential, personal fulfillment and intuitive development movements for over 20 years.

Also speaking was Scott Houston, Director of Legal Services for Texas Municipal League. He provided the latest update on the various bills recently approved by the legislature.



Above: Scott Houston, Director of Legal Services for the Texas Municipal League, performing the hula-hoop dance to keep the audience interested in the lengthy review of the bills approved by the last legislative session.

At left: Keynote Speaker Kathy Moore, MBA, B.C.H speaking to the conference attendees regarding motivational ways to deal with stress management.

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Central Texas Chapter

By Chapter President **Lydia Lopez, TRMC**
City Secretary, Hewitt

The Central Texas Chapter held their bi-monthly meeting on June 17 at the newly renovated Hilton Hotel in Waco.

The purpose of the meeting was to finalize plans for hosting conference attendees of the June 18-19 TMCCP Municipal Debt Creation & Administration Seminar. A fun time was had by all at the seminar. One sure thing about municipal clerks is that we like to shop, and the Central Texas area has a host of retail shopping opportunities. The downtown revitalization of the City of Waco has combined retail shops and fine dining opportunities. It was a great honor to have our colleagues in the Central Texas area!

TMCA President Patricia Ervin, TRMC, city secretary, Waco, was surprised with a presentation of recognition by Waco City Manager



Waco City Manager Larry Groth surprised Waco City Secretary and TMCA President Patricia Ervin, TRMC, with a presentation of recognition at the TMCCP seminar in June.

CENTRAL TEXAS CHAPTER

Larry Groth during the TMCCP seminar. Mr. Groth presented her with a pin recognizing 30 years of service. She has had an amazing career with the City of Waco. Her commitment to Waco and to her profession is a fine example for all municipal clerks. ★

Central Texas Chapter members present at the June meeting:

Jennifer Canady, TRMC,
city secretary, Woodway

Patricia Ervin, TRMC, city secretary, Waco

Secretary Donna Hawkins,
city secretary, Beverly Hills

Esmeralda Hudson,
assistant city secretary, Waco

Dorothy Jackson, city secretary, Hubbard

President Lydia Lopez, TRMC,
city secretary, Hewitt

Sherrill McDaniel,
customer service representative, Waco

Vice President Yrene Morgan, TRMC,
administrative assistant, Teague

Historian Kendra Pursche,
administrative assistant, Robinson

Angelia Sloan,
city secretary/finance director/HR, McGregor

Linda Vranich, city secretary, Robinson

Karen Warren, city secretary, Hillsboro

2009-2010 TMCCP SEMINAR CALENDAR

October 8-9, 2009, San Antonio GRADUATE INSTITUTE SEMINAR

Speaker:

Judy King, Quality Management Services

TMCCP enrollees can receive Course 1 seminar credit

January 11-13, 2010, Irving ELECTION LAW SEMINAR

TMCCP enrollees can receive Course 4 seminar credit

April 8-9, 2010, San Marcos OFFICE ADMINISTRATION & COMMUNICATION

Speakers:

UNT College of Business

Administration faculty

TMCCP enrollees can receive Course 2 seminar credit

June 17-18, 2010, Lubbock PUBLIC FUNDS INVESTMENT

Speaker:

Patrick Shinkle

TMCCP enrollees can receive Course 1 or 3 seminar credit

**Further 2010 and 2011 TMCCP seminars
are available on our website.**

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Coastal Bend Chapter

By **Irma Parker, TRMC**
City Secretary, Rockport

The chapter has two meetings to report. On June 26 twelve members attended the first meeting ever held in Yoakum! City of Yoakum City Clerk Theresa Bowe, TRMC, and Deputy City Clerk Gena Jiral hosted this meeting held at Yoakum City Hall. The hostesses prepared barbeque and homemade desert. Door prizes donated by area merchants were distributed—everyone won a door prize. Everyone!

A short business meeting was held with Nominating Committee Chairman Esther Arzola, city secretary, Port Aransas, presenting the slate of officers for 2010: President Scarlet Swoboda, TRMC, city secretary, Victoria; Vice President Becky Miska, city secretary, Edna; Treasurer Larry Thompson, city secretary, Ganado; and Secretary Theresa Bowe, TRMC, city clerk, Yoakum. Election of officers will be held at the August 2009 meeting in Port Aransas.

Attendees at the June chapter meeting included:

Amanda Alvarado, city secretary, Mathis

Esther Arzola,
city secretary, Port Aransas

Theresa Bowe, TRMC,
city secretary, Yoakum

Pam Hatzenbuehler,
deputy city secretary, Port Aransas

Gena Jiral, deputy city secretary, Yoakum

Larry Lancaster,
city secretary/administrator, Yorktown

Paulette Osburn, city secretary, Shiner

Chapter Treasurer Ada Owens, TRMC,
city secretary, Aransas Pass

Chapter President Irma Parker, TRMC,
city secretary, Rockport

Chapter Secretary Scarlet Swoboda,
TRMC, city secretary, Victoria

Larry Thompson,
city secretary/treasurer, Ganado

COASTAL BEND CHAPTER

The programs selected for this meeting were presented by Theresa Bowe and Irma Parker. Theresa prepared a program on “Nepotism” which everyone found to be both educational and humorous. Funny incidents complicated her May 2009 election, in which her father-in-law was the incumbent council member who finished in a tie vote! A run-off election was also conducted — only in a small Texas town could you have so many variables and excitement. City of Edna City Secretary Becky Miska was scheduled to present a program on “Run-Off and Tie-Vote Elections,” but due to a family emergency, Irma Parker presented her program.

The chapter’s next meeting was held in Port Aransas on August 13. City of Port Aransas City Secretary Esther Arzola and Deputy City Secretary Pam Hatzenbuehler hosted this meeting at the Trout Street Bar & Grill at the Port Aransas Fisherman’s Wharf. Our special guests were TMCA President Patricia Ervin, TRMC, city secretary, Waco, and her cousin Carol Van Hook.



From left to right: TMCA President Patricia Ervin, TRMC, city secretary, Waco, installed the new Coastal Bend Chapter officers: President Scarlet Swoboda, TRMC, city secretary, Victoria; Vice President Becky Miska, city secretary, Edna; and Treasurer Larry Thompson, city secretary, Ganado. (Secretary-Elect Theresa Bowe was unable to attend, and will be installed at the November meeting.)

COASTAL BEND CHAPTER

The meeting location was just perfect, with wonderful seafood and second floor views of the Gulf of Mexico, parasailing, and gorgeous yachts. Esther and Pam presented each member with souvenirs from Port Aransas. Thanks to Esther and Pam for hosting this meeting, the gifts were wonderful—special thanks to Esther for donating her condo for use by our special guests. We really do appreciate everything you both have continued to do for our chapter.

Nominating Committee Chairman Esther Arzola announced the slate of officers and thanked her committee members Edna Lopez and Yvonne Stonebraker for helping to present this great slate of officers for 2010. TMCA President Ervin installed the new officers: President Scarlet Swoboda, Vice President Becky Miska, and Treasurer Larry Thompson. (Secretary-Elect Theresa Bowe was unable to attend, and will be installed at the November meeting.) The ceremony was moving and meaningful, and something we hope to continue as a tradition for our chapter. Thank you, Trish—you really made this a very special occasion. And we hope you enjoyed the beach, especially the ferry!

The last meeting of the year will be held in the City of Edna the first week in November. A newsletter



Coastal Bend Chapter members at the August meeting.

COASTAL BEND CHAPTER

announcing the meeting and party will be sent out in October—watch your email. City of Edna City Secretary Becky Miska will be hosting this event! Chapter members are planning a get-together in San Antonio during TMCCP Graduate Institute. We hope to see everyone at the TML Region 11 meeting in Ingleside, the Graduate Institute, or TML Convention in October. ★

Attendees at the August meeting were:

Esther Arzola, city secretary, Port Aransas

Pat Brown, administrative assistant, Rockport

Carolyn Cauley, records clerk, Rockport

Connie Crammer, city secretary, Bayside

Patricia Ervin, TRMC, city secretary, Waco

Pam Hatzenbuehler,
deputy city secretary, Port Aransas

Edna Lopez, TRMC, city secretary, Kingsville

Chapter Treasurer Ada Owens, TRMC, city
secretary, Aransas Pass

Chapter President Irma Parker, TRMC, city
secretary, Rockport

Chapter Secretary Scarlet Swoboda, TRMC, city
secretary, Victoria

Larry Thompson, city secretary/treasurer,
Ganado

Carol Van Hook

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

Betsy Gates, Tomball

Tiffany Littlepage, Bulverde

Murvat Musa, Ransom Canyon

Susan Stewart, River Oaks

Karen S. Warren, Hillsboro

Kerry K. Williams, Llano

Course 2

Laura Bell, Carrollton

Vickie Brenton, Winnsboro

Cecillia Castillo, Irving

Cindy Cerny, El Campo

Deborah Dennis, Blue Mound

LuAnn D. Drake

Bruce Dunn, St. Paul

Jacquelyn Harborth, George West

Holly Harmon, McKinney

Leisa Hester, Orange Co. WCID #1

Esmeralda Hudson, Waco

Stephanie Hunt, Corsicana

Gale Ivy, San Saba

Judy Jackson, Throckmorton

Donna Myers, Orange Co. WCID #1

Melissa O'Sullivan, Corsicana

Ursula Paddie, Lampasas

Sonia Padron, Pharr

Sandy Page, Bowie

Saundra Passailaigue, Shavano Park

Hilda Pedraza, Pharr

Christel Pettinos, Coppell

Monica Solko, North Richland Hills

Angela Stutts, Onalaska

Larry Thompson, Ganado

Course 3

Linnea Bailey

Jeana Bellinger, Brenham

Roxanne Benitez, Hedwig Village

Carolyn Caldwell, Lindale

Deborah Dennis, Blue Mound

Shelley Goodwin, San Marcos

Lisa Hernandez, Fair Oaks Ranch

Stephanie Hunt, Corsicana

Jane Lees, Copperas Cove

Tiffany Littlepage, Bulverde

Sherrill Lynn McDaniel, Waco

Cara McPartland, Wimberley

Kerry Meredith, Texarkana

Sonia Padron, Pharr

Sandy Page, Bowie

Hilda Pedraza, Pharr

Kimberly Pence, Corinth

Sherrie Denise Phelps, Ladonia

Angela Stutts, Onalaska

Debbie Thomas, Alvarado

Mary Ybarra, Schertz

Course 4

Linnea Bailey

Carolyn Caldwell, Lindale

Cindy Cerny, El Campo

Ellie Monteaux, Livingston

Saundra Passailaigue, Shavano Park

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Hill Country Chapter

By Chapter Secretary **Shelley Britton**
City Secretary, Fredericksburg

The Hill Country Chapter held a meeting on June 24 at the Cabernet Grille in Fredericksburg, joined by TMCA President Patricia Ervin, TRMC, city secretary, Waco. President Ervin addressed the chapter on the role of the city secretary, the significance of networking, and the importance of taking time to take care of yourself. Chapter Secretary Shelley Britton reported that the chapter was excited to have President Ervin join them, as evidenced by the great turnout for our special guest! The Hill Country Chapter meets bi-monthly at different locations in Fredericksburg. Anyone interested in attending can contact chapter president **Vivian Saiz**, city secretary, Junction, or Chapter Secretary **Shelley Britton**, city secretary, Fredericksburg. ★

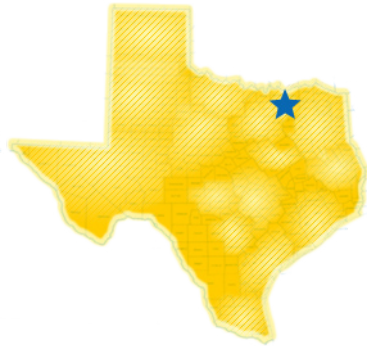
At the Hill Country Chapter meeting in June.

Seated: Polly Krenek, city secretary, Bertram; Karen Kiehne, Fredericksburg; special guest TMCA President Patricia Ervin, TRMC, city secretary, Waco; Maria Alvarado, Junction; and Irma Hernandez, Menard.

Standing: Joyce Laudenschlager, TRMC, director of finance/deputy city secretary, Burnet; Pat Dildine, city secretary, Johnson City; Katy Oliver, Granite Shoals; Brenda Craig, TRMC, city secretary, Kerrville; Rhonda Reichle, city secretary, Granite Shoals; Bobbie Mowrey, city secretary, Blanco; Shelley Britton, city secretary, Fredericksburg; Viv Saiz, city secretary, Junction; Kelly Dix, city secretary, Burnet; and Teresa Moore, city secretary, Horseshoe Bay.



TMCA CHAPTER NEWS



Lone Star Chapter

By Chapter President **Kathy Wingo, TRMC**
City Secretary, Lucas

At its monthly meeting on June 3, the Lone Star Chapter met in the City of Tom Bean. Including guests, there were 27 attendees at this meeting.

Mayor Sherry Howard welcomed members to the City of Tom Bean. Mayor Howard surprised Tom Bean City Secretary Cathy Pugh with a surprise tribute: a framed certificate recognizing her contributions and service to the City of Tom Bean.

Several other Lone Star Chapter members were also honored at this meeting: retirees Nan Parker, TRMC, city secretary, Frisco; Beverly Covington, TRMC, deputy city secretary, McKinney; and Carolyn Jones, city secretary, Fairview, were all recognized and presented with framed certifications for their service to the Lone Star Chapter.

Holly Harmon, records and information coordinator, McKinney, was the recipient of the Lone Star Chapter TMCA Scholarship, and Aimee Nemer, TRMC, city secretary, Murphy, was the recipient of the IIMC Scholarship.



Top photo: Tom Bean Mayor Sherry Howard presents a tribute to City Secretary Cathy Pugh.

Above: Retirees Carolyn Jones, city secretary, Fairview, and Beverly Covington, TRMC, deputy city secretary, McKinney, were recognized at the meeting.

LONE STAR CHAPTER

The prestigious 2009 TMCA Lone Star Chapter “CLERK OF THE YEAR” award was also presented at this meeting. This designation is bestowed upon the Lone Star Member that has exemplified leadership and service to the Lone Star Chapter and its members.



Congratulations to Lone Star Chapter Clerk of the Year Carole Ehrlich, TRMC, city secretary, Wylie

This year the chapter awarded this honor to Carole Ehrlich, TRMC, city secretary, Wylie.

Mary Kayser, TRMC, city secretary, Garland, was the guest speaker. Ms. Kayser’s topic was entitled “Networking: Weaving Our Strands of Knowledge and Building our Bridges of Empowerment.” The topic’s key points included: The Importance of a “Tag Line,” The Importance of Extra-Curricular Activities, Participation in a Professional Association, The Importance of Relationships, and Keeping a Database or Notebook of Contacts and Network Information.

The Lone Star Chapter’s next meeting was on August 5 in the City of Denison. There were 20 members in attendance with three guests.

Members present at the June Lone Star Chapter meeting:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Barbara Alavarado,
city secretary, Howe | Kathy Wingo, TRMC,
city secretary, Lucas |
| Stephanie Calame,
rec. mgmt. admin., Wylie | Diane Zucco, TRMC,
city secretary, Plano |
| Bruce Dunn,
town secretary, St. Paul | |
| Carole Ehrlich, TRMC,
city secretary, Wylie | |
| Vickie Faulkner, TRMC,
city secretary, Celina | |
| Shelley George, TRMC,
city secretary, Allen | |
| Holly Harmon,
rec. & info. coord., McKinney | |
| Julie Lollar, TRMC,
city secretary, Denison | |
| Cathy Pugh,
city secretary, Tom Bean | |
| Carrie Smith,
city secretary, Parker | |
| Alice Snyder,
assist. city secretary, Plano | |
| Lisa Stewart,
city secretary, Southmayd | |
| Eddie Sturgal, TRMC,
city secretary, Fate | |
| Lincoln Thompson,
dep. city sec., McKinney | |
| Gayle Walton, TRMC,
deputy city secretary,
Wylie | |
| Christie Wilson, TRMC,
city secretary, The Colony | |

Special guests:

- Beverly Covington,
deputy city secretary
(retired), McKinney
- Carolyn Jones, city secretary
(retired), Fairview
- Sherry Howard, mayor, Tom
Bean
- Tammy Phillips, Tom Bean
- Eric Hogue, mayor, Wylie
- Rachael Orozco, Wylie
- Beth Woodson, Whitewright
- Mona Sears, Whitewright
- Cathy Pierce, Whitewright



Holly Harmon, records & information coordinator, McKinney, was awarded the Lone Star Chapter Scholarship.

LONE STAR CHAPTER



Guest speaker and former City of Denison Mayor Bill Lindsay

The meeting's guest speaker was former City of Denison Mayor Bill Lindsay. He spoke on "The Legislative Process," sharing knowledge gained from many years of experience. Mr. Lindsay gave a very informative overall "working" view of the legislative process, including the dos and don'ts, what to expect, and ending with a Q&A session.

For information regarding TMCA Lone Star Chapter membership/meetings, please contact Kathy Wingo, TRMC, city secretary, City of Lucas, at 972-727-8999. ★

Future Scheduled Meetings Of the Lone Star Chapter:

September 2, 2009 – City of Plano

Guest Speaker: **Steve Sims**, Plano Senior Planner

Topic: **The 2010 Census**. This topic will encompass the 2010 Census and how it will affect your community and municipality. Members and guests are invited to attend this very important meeting.

October 14, 2009 – City of The Colony

November 4, 2009 – City of Allen

December 2, 2009 – Christmas Luncheon
– Location to be Determined

Members and guest in attendance at the August Lone Star Chapter meeting were:

Barbara Alavarado, city secretary, Howe

Stephanie Calame, rec. mgmt. administrator, Wylie

Bruce Dunn, town secretary, St. Paul

Vickie Faulkner, TRMC, city secretary, Celina

Shelley George, TRMC, city secretary, Allen

Angela Kelly, deputy city secretary, The Colony

Carole Kuykendall, assistant city secretary, Greenville

Julie Lollar, TRMC, city secretary, Denison

Aimee Nemer, TRMC, city secretary, Murphy

Debbie Newell, city secretary, Greenville

Sherrie Phelps, city secretary, Ladonia

Cathy Pugh, city secretary, Tom Bean

Susie Quinn, TRMC, city secretary, Rowlett

Pamela Schmidt, TRMC, city secretary, Richardson

Carrie Smith, city secretary, Parker

Lisa Stewart, city secretary, Southmayd

Gayle Walton, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Wylie

Christie Wilson, TRMC, city secretary, The Colony

Kathy Wingo, TRMC, city secretary, Lucas

Diane Zucco, TRMC, city secretary, Plano

Special Guests:

Teresa Niño, city secretary, Whitesboro

Nina Jones, city secretary (retired), Denison

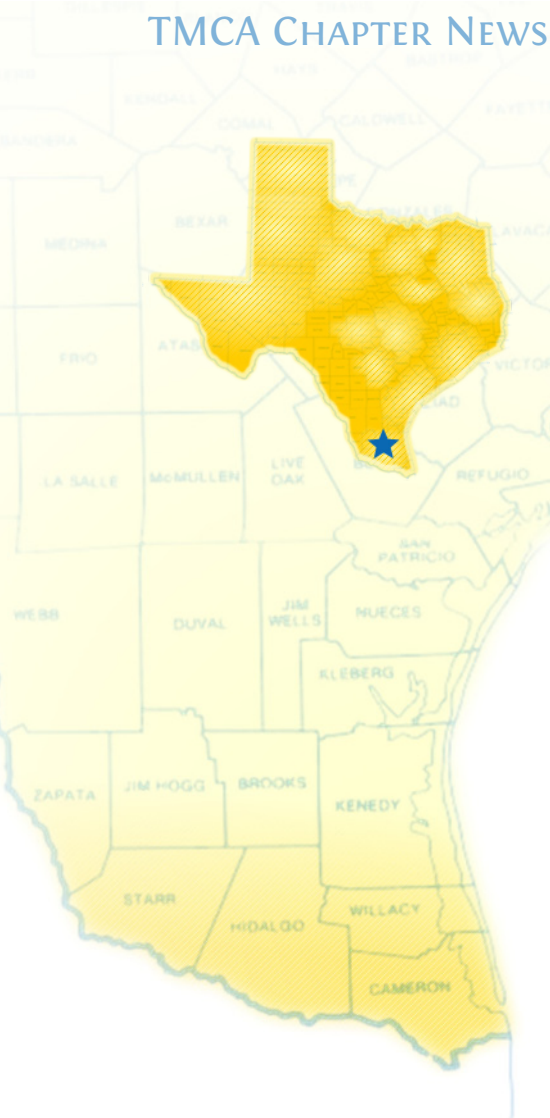
Jan Cooper, mayor, Ladonia

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Lower Rio Grande Valley Chapter

By Chapter Vice President **Perla Zamora, TRMC**
Deputy City Secretary, McAllen

The Lower Rio Grande Valley Chapter met on July 15 at the Rio Hondo City Hall. City Manager Arturo Prida gave a warm welcome to members and the invited guest speaker. The City of Rio Hondo graciously hosted a wonderful luncheon.



LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY CHAPTER

President Amanda Elizondo, TRMC, city secretary, Weslaco, introduced guest speaker Mr. Jeff Johnston, assistant city manager/emergency management coordinator, who gave a presentation on Hurricane Preparedness/Disaster Recovery. Members and guests certainly were motivated by the insight provided by Mr. Johnston. He went over key points such as hurricane evacuation plans, management information and planning, and purchasing windstorm/flood insurance and involving all department heads and divisions. ★



TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

North Texas Chapter

By Vice President **Linda Rhodes, TRMC**
City Secretary, Lake Worth

The North Texas Municipal Clerks Association (NTMCA) had a great turnout for their chapter meeting in June. NTMCA members were fortunate to have TMCA President Patricia Ervin, TRMC, city secretary, Waco, as their guest speaker. While in town, Trish did the honor of swearing in two new officers who graciously accepted the positions due to recent vacancies: Historian Norma Zenk, TRMC, town secretary, Pantego, and Secretary Kim Sutter, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Euless. Norma and Kim will serve in their respective positions through October.

There were several members who were recognized at the meeting, including recipients of the Alyce Deering Scholarship, the NTMCA City Secretary of the Year, and our chapter's nominee for the TMCA Clerk of the Year.



TMCA President Patricia Ervin, TRMC (*right*), city secretary, Waco, administers the oath of office to NTMCA Treasurer Norma Zenk TRMC, (*left*), town secretary, Pantego, and Kim Sutter, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Euless.

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER

Congratulations to the following NTMCA Chapter members:

Alyce Deering Scholarship

Cynthia Singleton, TRMC, city secretary, Colleyville
Art Camacho, TRMC, city secretary, Haltom City

NTMCA City Secretary of the Year

Linda Rhodes, TRMC, city secretary, Lake Worth

NTMCA Nominee for the TMCA City Secretary of the Year

Mary Kayser, TRMC, city secretary, Garland

Vice President Rhodes presented certificates of recognition to all FY 2008/2009 NTMCA committee members for their efforts. The certificates carried this year's theme of each member being an "Essential Piece."

The NTMCA 2009/2010 slate of officers was also presented:

President Linda Rhodes, TRMC, city secretary, Lake Worth
Vice President Shelly Doty, TRMC, city secretary, Cleburne
Treasurer Kim Sutter, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Euless
Secretary Norma Zenk, TRMC, town secretary, Pantego
Historian Kimberley Whitton, TRMC, city secretary, Azle

Top right: Several members were recognized at the June meeting, including Linda Cantu, TRMC, city secretary, Richland Hills; Ivy Peterson, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Cleburne; Linda Rhodes, TRMC, city secretary, Lake Worth; and Shelly Doty, TRMC, Cleburne.

At right: Mary Kayser, TRMC, city secretary, Garland, awards an Alyce Deering Scholarship to Art Camacho, TRMC, city secretary, Haltom City.



NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER

Upcoming NTMCA Professional Business Meetings:

September 9, 11:30 a.m., in Fort Worth, with guest speaker

Government Information Analyst Sarah Jacobson of Texas

State Library and Archives

October 14 in Fort Worth

All are encouraged to attend the NTMCA Professional

Business Meetings. These meetings are a great oppor-

tunity for you to asked questions and share informa-

tion about your profession. Contact Vice President

Linda Rhodes, TRMC, for more information. ★

Top left: Mary Kayser, TRMC, city secretary, Garland, was recognized as the NTMCA nominee for the TMCA Municipal Clerk of the Year.

Top right: Linda Rhodes, TRMC (*center*), city secretary, Lake Worth, was honored as NTMCA City Secretary of the Year; Lake Worth Assistant City Manager Kenneth West and Lake Worth City Manager Brett McGuire were in attendance.

At right: The NTMCA Chapter at its June meeting.



TMCA CHAPTER NEWS



Panhandle Chapter

By **Kim Rehkopf**
City Secretary, Dumas

The Panhandle Chapter met at the Amarillo Club in the City of Amarillo on June 25. The meeting featured a retirement luncheon for Carolee Nance, city secretary, Fritch.

To receive notice of future Panhandle Chapter meetings, please contact Chapter Secretary **Kim Rehkopf**, city secretary, Dumas. ★



DALLAM	SHERMAN	HANSFORD	OCHILTREE	LIPSCOMB
HARTLEY	MOORE	WITCHAMON	ROBERTS	HEMPHREY
OLDHAM	POTTER	CARSON	GRAY	WHEELER
DEAF SMITH	RANDALL	ARMSTRONG	DONLEY	COLLINGSWORTH
PARMER	CASTRO	SWISHER	BRISCOE	HALL
BAILEY	LAMB	HALE	FLOYD	MOTLEY
COOCHISE	HOCKLEY	LUBBOCK	CROSBY	DICKENS
YOAKUM	TERRY	LYNN	GARZA	KENT
GAINES	DAWSON	BORDEN	SCURRY	FISHER
ANDREWS	MARTIN	HOBART	MITCHELL	NOLAN

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS



Red River Chapter

By Chapter President **Marie Balthrop, TRMC**
City Secretary, Holliday

The Red River Chapter met on June 17 at Logan's Roadhouse in Wichita Falls. The group was excited to welcome new member Kelley Bloodworth, city secretary, Henrietta, to our meeting, and to introduce her to all that TMCA membership has to offer.

After we enjoyed a wonderful lunch, Lydia Ozuna, TRMC, city clerk, Wichita Falls, presented training on Records Management. We truly appreciate Lydia sharing her vast experience and expertise with our group. The group also discussed the current TMCA membership contest and the need for people to volunteer for committees in the TMCA state association.

The next meeting will be held September 16 at Logan's Roadhouse in Wichita Falls. TMCA President Patricia Ervin, TRMC, will be attending our September meeting and we look forward to her visit. For more information about the Red River Chapter, please contact President Marie Balthrop, TRMC, at 940-586-1313. ★

Red River Chapter members in attendance at the June meeting were:

Marie Balthrop, TRMC,
 city secretary, Holliday

Kelley Bloodworth,
 city secretary, Henrietta

Linda Byers, city secretary, Vernon

Tammy Edwards, TRMC,
 city secretary, Alvord

Trish Holley, TRMC,
 city clerk, Burkburnett

Lydia Ozuna, TRMC,
 city clerk, Wichita Falls

Mitzi Wallace, TRMC,
 city secretary, Bowie

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Salt Grass Chapter

By Chapter Secretary **Thelma Lenz, TRMC**
City Secretary, West University Place

The Salt Grass Chapter was on hiatus for the months of May, June, and July. The chapter held its first meeting after its summer hiatus at the Texas Land & Cattle Steak Houston. The program was on “Identity Theft—A New Wave of Compliance,” and was presented by Patti Bolli Nelson, CITRMS, PT, Group Security and Benefit Specialist, Pre-Paid Legal Services, Inc. Other business included approval of the April 8, 2009, minutes; approval of financial reports from March, April, May, June, and July 2009; receipt of reports from the various committees; and announcements of upcoming meetings and seminars.



Speaker Patti Bolli Nelson, CITRMS, PT, Group Security and Benefit Specialist, Pre-Paid Legal Services, Inc., speaks to the Salt Grass Chapter on “Identity Theft—A New Wave of Compliance.”

SALT GRASS CHAPTER

The chapter would like to honor and congratulate one of its own, Deer Park City Secretary Sandra (affectionately known as Sandi) Watkins, TRMC. She was unanimously chosen by the chapter as its nomination for this year's TMCA Municipal Clerk of the Year award.

Sandi has served as a municipal clerk for the past 17 years, with 7 prior years of service as a deputy municipal clerk, totaling 24 years of service. She has served in numerous capacities, from local, state, to international. She has been an inspiration to all members of the Salt Grass Chapter and TMCA. She continues to seek and bring out the best in people, and through this insight has recruited numerous members to our local and state organizations. Sandi is a very active member at all levels. Her knowledge has been instrumental for other members, and though she has given so much of herself to our profession, Sandi herself is very modest. You can find Sandi's stamp of knowledge on many state and local ideas and accomplishments, but she always knows when and how to take a step back to let others learn and grow. Rather than give people the proverbial fish to eat for a day, she teaches them to fish so they will eat for a lifetime.



*Congratulations to
Salt Grass Chapter
Clerk of the Year
Sandra Watkins, TRMC,
city secretary, Deer Park*

Additionally, Sandi is the recipient of an IIMC scholarship for her submission of her paper titled "Records—Nightmare or Blessing," which chronicles how she brought her city into the "records" age and has streamlined the process for a top-notch records management program.

Sandi is truly an amazing person and super city secretary. She was born to be a city secretary and her love for the job proves it. She has been an inspiration to countless persons. We are sure that there are many others deserving of this award, but members of the Salt Grass Chapter can honestly say that we are pretty sure that Sandi is the best of the bunch. Congratulations, Sandi. You deserve it!

If you are a city secretary, assistant/deputy city secretary, or if you have similar job responsibilities and would benefit from the Salt Grass Chapter, we invite you to a meeting to see and hear for yourself the benefits of being a member. The benefits are endless and the support is unbelievable! For more information on becoming a member of the chapter, please contact Chapter Secretary Thelma Lenz at 713-662-5813 or tlenz@westu.org. ★

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS



South Plains Chapter

By Chapter Secretary **Brenda Shaw, TRMC**
City Secretary/Manager, Morton

The South Plains met on June 17 at the Olive Garden Italian Restaurant in Lubbock. The meeting was hosted by City of Bovina City Secretary Bonnie Scaff, TRMC. President LeAnn Gallman, TRMC, city secretary, Muleshoe, called the meeting to order, welcoming members and guests.

Patricia Phipps, TRMC, introduced Chris Alexander, Chamber of Commerce Executive from the City of Friona. Chris gave presentation on the 4th Annual Texas Cheeseburger Cook-Off in Friona.

Guests included: Geneva Parkinson, Toni Wilson's mother; Jessica and Copper Boggs, daughter and grandson of Belinda Terrell; and Toni Longoria, city clerk, Lorenzo.

President LeAnn Gallman read aloud thank you notes from Toni Wilson, Gayla Cowan, and those making TMCA scholarship contributions.

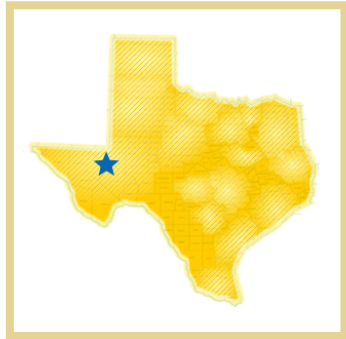
Motion was made by Maria Hatchett, TRMC, and seconded by Sharon Trumble to hold the 2009 Annual Chapter Seminar on Human Resources and Inspiration, to be presented by Beth Walls and Randy Owen at the Women's Club in Lubbock.

The next meeting was set for September 16, to be hosted by Jody Taylor, city secretary, Dickens. ★

Members and guests attending were:

- Mary Brown, Ransom Canyon
- Toni Chrestman, TRMC, city sec., Slaton
- Christy Forbes, city secretary, Ralls
- LeAnn Gallman, TRMC, city secretary, Muleshoe
- Debbie Gressett, TRMC, city secretary, Seminole
- Nancy Hale, TRMC, city secretary, Spur
- Maria Hatchett, TRMC, city sec., Lamesa
- Belinda Hinojosa, city sec., Plainview
- Jodie House, city secretary, Crosbyton
- Monica Lopez, city secretary, Lorenzo
- Murvat Musa, city secretary, Ransom Canyon
- Patricia Phipps, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Friona
- Jeannie Rogers, billing director, Tulia
- Bonnie Scaff, TRMC, city secretary, Bovina
- Belinda Terrell, city secretary, Whiteface
- Sharon Trumble, city secretary, New Deal
- Lynnette Whitten, deputy city secretary, Morton
- Toni Wilson, TRMC, city sec., Sundown
- Toni Longoria, Lorenzo
- Geneva Parkinson
- Jessica Boggs
- Cooper Boggs

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

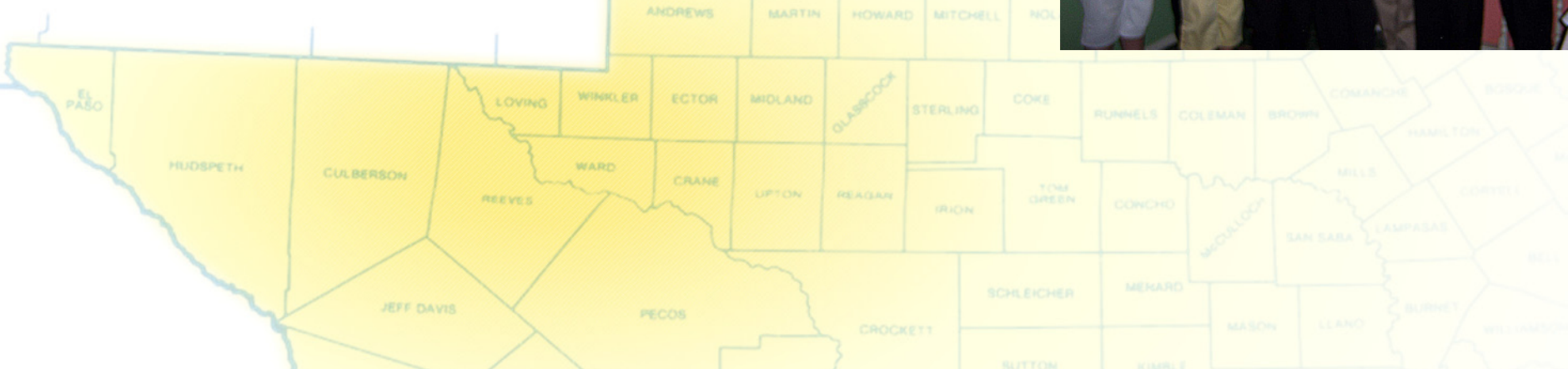


West Texas Chapter

By Chapter Secretary **Karen Hornsey**
City Secretary, Crane

The West Texas Chapter met at the Barn Door Steakhouse in Odessa for the second quarterly meeting on April 15. The meeting was called to order by President Tonya Todd, TRMC, city secretary, Wink. President Todd welcomed the chapter members to the meeting, acknowledged newest member Marla Arizola, city secretary, Sterling City, and asked each member to introduce themselves and name the city they represent. Ten members were present representing ten cities.

From left to right: Marla Arizola, city secretary, Sterling City; Kaylah McCord, city secretary, Midland; Evelyn Ammons, city secretary, Big Lake; Renee Lee, asst. city secretary, Rankin; Jerry Curfew, city secretary (retired), Crane; Anita Sparks, city secretary, Rankin; Tonya Todd, TRMC, city secretary, Wink; Lou Ann Watson, city secretary, McCamey; Gloria Saenz, city secretary, Kermit; Laura Reyes, TRMC, city secretary (ret.), Van Horn; Becky Brewster, TRMC, city secretary/admin. (ret.), VanHorn; and Karen Hornsey, city secretary, Crane.



WEST TEXAS CHAPTER

A motion was made by Anita Sparks and seconded by Kayla McCord to nominate Norma Grimaldo, TRMC, city secretary, Odessa, for 2009 TMCA Municipal Clerk of the Year.

The next quarterly meeting for the West Texas Chapter is scheduled for Wednesday, August 26, to be hosted by City of Midland at Midland's Petroleum Museum. TMCA President Patricia Ervin, TRMC, city secretary, Waco, will be our guest.

President Tonya Todd acknowledged Town of Van Horn retirees Assistant City Secretary Laura Reyes, TRMC, and City Secretary/Administrator Becky Brewster, TRMC, and future retiree Lou Ann Watson, city secretary, McCamey, and presented them each with a gift from the West Texas Chapter. The retirees each spoke about their experiences in municipal government and gave some words of wisdom for the chapter members. ★



*Congratulations to
West Texas Chapter
Clerk of the Year
Norma Grimaldo TRMC,
city secretary, Odessa*

Members present at the West Texas Chapter meeting in April were:

Evelyn Ammons, city secretary, Big Lake

Marla Arizola, city secretary, Sterling City

Becky Brewster, TRMC, city secretary/administrator (retired), Van Horn

Chapter Reporter/Historian Karen Hornsey, city secretary, Crane

Renee Lee, assistant city secretary, Rankin

Kaylah McCord, city secretary, Midland

Secretary/Treasurer Gloria Saenz, city secretary, Kermit

Anita Sparks, city secretary, Rankin

President Tonya Todd, TRMC, city secretary, Wink

Lou Ann Watson, city secretary, McCamey

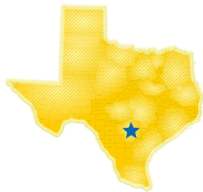
Guests:

Jerry Curfew – 2005 retiree from Crane

Laura Reyes – 2009 retiree from Van Horn

Sherry Wilson, daughter of Evelyn Ammons

TMCA Chapters



ALAMO CHAPTER

Yolanda Benitez, TRMC, President
9400 Municipal Parkway
Garden Ridge, TX 78266
210-651-6632
210-651-9638 Fax
citysecretary@ci.garden-ridge.tx.us



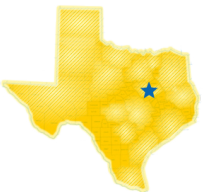
BLUEBONNET CHAPTER

Shirley Stuart, President
PO Box 749
Eastland, TX 76448
254-629-8321
254-629-3171 Fax
shirley@bryrus.net



CAPITAL CHAPTER

Teresa Valdez, TRMC, President
PO Box 427
Bastrop, TX 78602
512-303-7305
512-321-6684 Fax
tvaldez@cityofbastrop.org



CENTRAL TEXAS CHAPTER

Lydia Lopez, TRMC, President
PO Box 610
Hewitt, TX 76643-0610
254-666-6171
254-666-6014 Fax
citysecretary@cityofhewitt.com



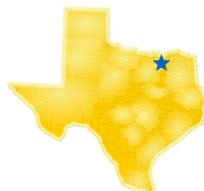
COASTAL BEND CHAPTER

Irma Parker, TRMC, President
622 E Market St
Rockport, TX 78382
361-729-2213, x138
361-790-5966 Fax
citysec@cityofrockport.com



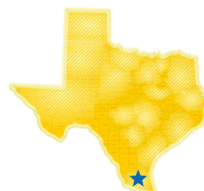
HILL COUNTRY CHAPTER

K. Vivian Saiz, President
730 Main St
Junction, TX 76849
325-446-2622
325-446-3003 Fax
vivian.saiz@cityofjunction.com



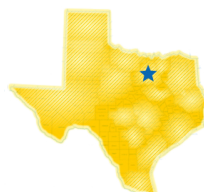
LONE STAR CHAPTER

Kathy Wingo, TRMC, President
151 Country Club Rd
Lucas, TX 75002
972-727-8999, ext. 227
972-727-0091 Fax
kwingo@lucastexas.us



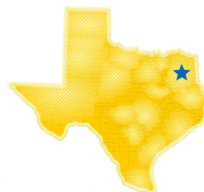
LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY CHAPTER

Amanda Elizondo, TRMC, President
255 S Kansas Ave
Weslaco, TX 78596
956-968-3181, ext. 3102
956-968-6717 Fax
acelizondo@weslacotx.gov



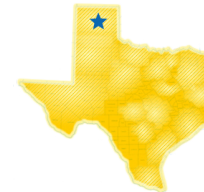
NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER

Codi Delcambre, TRMC, President
PO Box 609
Argyle, TX 76226
940-464-7273, ext. 105
940-464-7274 Fax
cdelcambre@argyletx.com



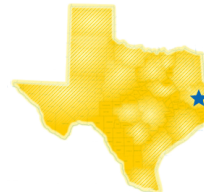
NORTHEAST TEXAS CHAPTER

Melba Haralson, TRMC, President
PO Box 1725
Gladewater, TX 75647
903-845-2196
903-845-6891 Fax
haralsonm@cityofgladewater.com



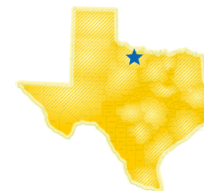
PANHANDLE CHAPTER

Suzanne Finch, TRMC, President
PO Box 2277
Hereford, TX 79045
806-363-7100
806-363-7106 Fax
hfdcitysec@go-herd.com



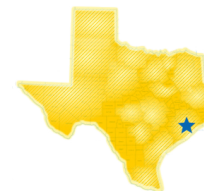
PINEYWOODS CHAPTER

Carrie Edwards, President
PO Box 144
Colmesneil, TX 75938
409-837-5211
409-837-2502 Fax
cityofcolmesneil@valornet.com



RED RIVER CHAPTER

Marie Balthrop, TRMC, President
PO Box 508
Holliday, TX 76366
940-586-1313
940-586-1107 Fax
holidayadmin@srcaccess.net



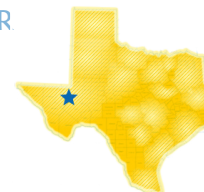
SALT GRASS CHAPTER

Lisa Olmeda, TRMC, President
120 E Caney St
Wharton, TX 77488
979-532-2491
979-532-0181 Fax
lolmeda@cityofwharton.com



SOUTH PLAINS CHAPTER

LeAnn Gallman, TRMC, President
215 S First St
Muleshoe, TX 79347
806-272-4528
806-272-5260 Fax
lgallman@fivearea.com



WEST TEXAS CHAPTER

Tonya Todd, TRMC, President
PO Box 400
Wink, TX 79789
432-527-3441
432-527-3303 Fax
cityclerk01@hotmail.com