



TMCA NEWS



TMCA President
Norma Aguilar-Grimaldo, TRMC
City Secretary, Odessa

President's Message

PREPARE, SET, EXECUTE!

As our 2013 journey continues, I am making many great memories during my visits to the TMCA chapters. As I travel from chapter to chapter sharing my experiences and thoughts, I have seen positive attitudes and experienced members having fun and enjoying the friendships formed in our local chapters. Additionally, with the education that chapters provide, chapter members are continuing to reach a higher level of knowledge that is beneficial in assisting other municipal clerks.

In my previous two articles, I shared six life reminders with you to apply toward your personal and professional life. We move on to the next three as I embrace every moment of this year. In our journey through life, we need to focus on welcoming all

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

experiences, staying focused and not giving up, and communicating.

“Welcome all experiences.” It’s easy to say, but with some situations you can’t help but ask “why?” During a difficult situation, take the time to breathe and shake off the negative energy that is overwhelming you. Each experience offers an opportunity for personal growth that you can express professionally and personally. Experiences help shape us, and it is up to you to make it positive. Sometimes learning from your own experiences creates better results. Yes, we learn from each other’s experiences, but in some cases we have to learn the hard way. Yes, it makes us a better person. You are a better person!

“Stay focused and don’t give up.” Sometimes when we multi-task we focus on tasks that are easier or faster to complete. Take our records management, for example. Many of us need to work on our city docu-

ments as records management officers. Some of us are at different stages. Some municipal clerks may be at the planning stage, implementation stage, or “needs funding” stage. As part of our duties and our roles, we must stay focused to get those city documents under a records management plan and implemented. It is our responsibility. We may not be actively working on records management, but we don’t give up on it. We know records management needs to be addressed, no matter what stage your city is at with records management, and, even if it is out of your control, funding. We do not give up as clerks. Face the situation at hand, look at the situation, and review your options to move forward and see clearly which option is the better choice. In the words of Helen Keller, “Character cannot be developed in ease and quiet. Only through experiences of trial and suffering can the soul be strengthened, vision cleared, ambition inspired and success achieved.”

“Communication.” How well we know that communication is so important. Even if we don’t say one word, either at a meeting or visiting with a citizen, actions speak for us. For a municipal clerk, good communication is imperative so that the correct information is translated to the receiver. The lack of communication or miscommunication can be detrimental to clerks’ responsibilities. Please be confident that your staff, reporters, citizens, and council understand the message. It is a reflection on the city and the city secretary’s office.

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TRMC

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It has taken me time to grow in this area. As a shy person, I did not talk much. I would say my hellos and cordial greetings. I was not much for conversation because I didn't know what subjects to talk about. I thought talking about the weather was lame. Later, after I came out of my shell, I was told that people thought I was "stuck up" because I didn't talk much. Well that hit me right in the face, and I was shocked. From that point forward, I made it a point to get out of my comfort zone and speak to others in social settings. I did not want to be portrayed as having any type of negative traits. Yet it turned out that this was a trait to work on to help me become a better person.

Our **TMCCP Graduate Institute Seminar** is around the corner in South Padre. Not only is it a great island to take a getaway, but you will have a great educational opportunity. We will have our annual **TMCA Business Meeting** at this seminar, and I will have the pleasure of installing your new 2014 TMCA Executive Board. The **TMCA Banquet** will be a hit—one that you do not want to miss. I hope to see you there. If you would like to reach me, I'm only a phone call or email away.

Remember to keep dancing on the sunrays. If you move to the next sunray, one of us municipal clerks is there to stand next to you to continue shining.

Enjoy your summertime and get some fun in!

Norma Aguilar-Grimaldo, TRMC

2013 TMCA President

ngrimaldo@odessa-tx.gov • 432-335-3276

Upcoming Events

September 13, Port Aransas • **Registration open**
Athenian Dialogue

(hosted by Coastal Bend Chapter of TMCA)

Educational credit: TMCCP recertification credit can be earned with dialogue participation and the satisfactory completion of the learning assessment; dialogue is also preapproved for two IIMC CMC or MMC education points with the satisfactory, timely completion of a learning assessment.

October 8-11, Austin • **Learn more**

TML Annual Conference

TMCA will sponsor the **Women in Government Breakfast** on Friday, October 11—join us!

Oct. 24-25, South Padre Island • **Registration open**
TMCCP Graduate Institute Seminar

Speaker: Jon Stigliano

Educational credit: TMCCP Course 1 or Recertification seminar attendance credit

December 10-12, Midwest City, Oklahoma • **Registration open**

Region IV IIMC Meeting

January 16-18, Irving • **Pre-registration available;**

full information to be posted in October

TMCCP Election Law Seminar

Speakers: various speakers featured

Educational credit: TMCCP Course 4 or Recertification seminar attendance credit

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This year marks a high point of my career, as I have had the distinct privilege to serve as president for the Texas Municipal Clerks Association, Inc. 2013 has been such an illuminating and gratifying experience as I have been accepted warmly by municipalities' clerks and by city representatives at TMCA chapter meetings. Below is a list of meetings that I have attended. I encourage you to **attend your chapter meetings**, for they provide valuable resources and networking. I look forward to visiting the rest of the chapters across Texas.

March 13, Midland: **West Texas Chapter**

April 17, Kerrville: **Hill Country Chapter**

May 19-23, Atlantic City, New Jersey: **IIMC Conference**

June 12, De Leon: **Bluebonnet Chapter**

June 19, Wichita Falls: **Red River Chapter**

June 26, Leon Valley: **Alamo Chapter**

July 17, Arlington: **North Texas Chapter**

July 27, Salado: **Capital Chapter**

August 1, Lancaster: **Yellow Rose Chapter**

August 21, Robinson: **Central Texas Chapter**

September: **Coastal Bend Chapter**

September 18, Harlingen: **Lower Rio Grande Valley Chapter**

September 26, Center: **Pineywoods Chapter**

October 2, Wylie: **Lone Star Chapter**

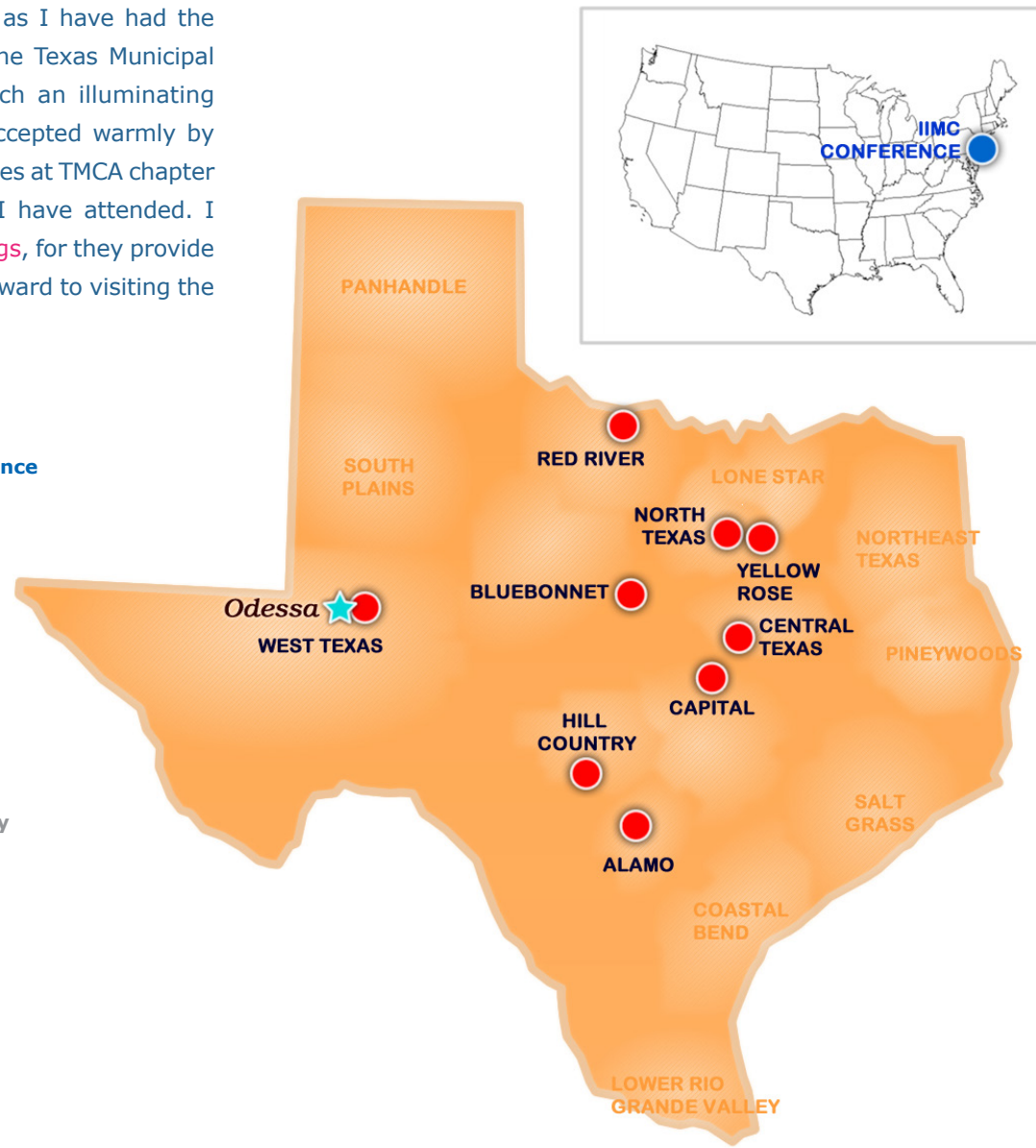
October 4, Canton: **Northeast Texas Chapter**

October 8-11, Austin: **TML Conference**

December 11: **Salt Grass Chapter**

December 18, Lubbock: **South Plains Chapter**

December 19, Amarillo: **Panhandle Chapter**





Take part!

Celebrate with your fellow TMCA members on October 24 in South Padre Island at the Annual TMCA Business Meeting and the TMCA Awards Banquet.

TMCA Annual Business Meeting, Thursday, October 24, 11:30 a.m. The meeting includes the 2012 Annual Business Meeting minutes, the treasurer's report, election of our 2014 officers, and the 2013 resolutions.

TMCA Annual Awards Banquet, Thursday, October 24, 5:30 p.m. The agenda includes recognition of our 2013 retirees, presentation of scholarship awards, presentation of the 2013 TMCA Municipal Clerk of the Year, the installation of 2014 TMCA officers, and the 2014 president's acceptance speech. Dress is "after five."

*A banquet ticket is included in your Graduate Institute registration. If you are not attending the seminar but would like to attend the banquet, please purchase your **banquet ticket** in advance. We hope to see you there!*

TMCCP EDUCATION DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Senate Bill 1437 Saves Municipal Clerks' Time and Tax Payers' Dollars



TMCCP Education Director
Dr. Amy Holt

As you well know, municipal clerks are a strong driving force in local government and are often the most direct link between citizens and government. Sometimes your efforts fly under the radar, but other times your work is in the spotlight. Both are important. In both cases, you give of yourselves for the public good. Moreover, you work hard to serve your profession and your colleagues in other municipalities. City of Frisco City Secretary Jenny Page, TRMC, recently helped create legislation that will be helpful to taxpayers in terms of cost savings and other municipal clerks in terms of saving time.

As municipal clerks many of you must file a sundry of documents with the county clerk (e.g. liens, development agreements, annexations, easements, deeds, etc.) Sometimes you could do that electronically, but sometimes you would have to take time out of your busy day (or

delegate this and take time out of someone else's busy day) to physically take the documents to the court clerk's office.

And, for municipalities like Frisco, sometimes two court clerks would be involved since Frisco is located in Collin and Denton Counties.

Some persons and entities have been allowed to e-file documents with county clerks since as early as 1999. For instance, licensed Texas attorneys, banks, persons licensed to make regulated loans in Texas, or a title insurance company, all have been allowed to file electronic documents or other documents electronically for recording with a county

clerk that accepts electronic filing and recording.

Jenny Page requested to be able to file electronically with Collin County, but was denied since a municipality was not authorized to perform electronic filing. Collin County



Jenny Page, TRMC
City Secretary, City of Frisco

TMCCP EDUCATION DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Clerk Stacy Kemp worked with Senator Ken Paxton to create SB 1437. This bill would allow municipal clerks the ability to electronically file documents with the county. Jenny Page along with Frisco Assistant City Secretary Wendy Withers, TRMC, and Stacey Kemp traveled to Austin in April 2013 in support of this bill. Jenny and Wendy created an impressive letter to the chair of the Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence Committee, Tyron Lewis. This letter cited the ability of technological advances to increase production and streamline government processes. They further pointed out how allowing municipal clerks to electronically file documents and the resulting time and money savings would present a positive image of fiscal responsibility on behalf of county and local governments. Who could argue with this? This bill passed unanimously and thus amended section §195.003 of the Texas Local Government Code. On May 20 municipal clerks were added to the list of individuals permitted to electronically file documents with a county clerk's office.

This process, no doubt, added to Jenny's already "full plate" at work, but like so many of you, she took the time and energy to make government work more efficiently. Thank you Jenny, Wendy, and Stacy! We are proud of you! ★

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

Linda Asbell, Lakewood Village
 Roxanne Benitez, Hedwig Village
 Angela Cantu, La Vernia
 Janice England, Saginaw
 Jana Faucett, Temple
 Paula Favors, Wharton
 Gay Ferguson, Nederland
 Amber Fuller, Hubbard
 Blanca Garcia, McKinney
 Deborah Gurka, Texas City
 Amanda Jacobs, Bedford
 Leticia Saenz, San Antonio
 Mary Supino, Arlington
 Christe Whitley Smith, Port Arthur

Course 2

Linda Asbell, Lakewood Village
 Kara Atwood, Lufkin
 Christy Badilla, Brady
 Shannon Bennett, Deer Park
 Leonardo Bonanno, Jr.
 Krista Cain, Weatherford
 Jacky Casey, Rockwall
 Patricia Cortes, Cedar Hill
 Deborah Dane, Kilgore
 Sabra Davis, Granger
 Jennifer Faircloth, Lucas
 Jana Faucett, Temple
 Asucena Garcia, Decatur
 Seth Gipson, Hutto
 Lyn Hill, Cedar Hill
 Traci Paprocki, Schertz
 Baudelia Rojas, Alton
 Amy Shelley, Colleyville
 Mary Supino, Arlington
 Christe Whitley Smith, Port Arthur

Course 3

Linda Asbell, Lakewood Village
 Shannon Bennett, Deer Park
 Vicki Collins, Mansfield
 Gay Ferguson, Nederland
 Jannette Goodall, Austin
 Amy Shelley, Colleyville
 Angie Wade, Duncanville

Course 4

Linda Asbell, Lakewood Village
 Kara Atwood, Lufkin
 Shannon Bennett, Deer Park
 Terry Blanchard, Rockdale
 Leonardo Bonanno, Jr.
 Machiel Covey, Clarendon
 Deborah Dane, Kilgore
 Jana Faucett, Temple
 Asucena Garcia, Decatur
 Jannette, Goodall, Austin
 Shelley Major, Hudson Oaks
 Diana Gordon Offord, Fulshear
 Baudelia Rojas, Alton
 Amy Shelley, Colleyville
 Melinda Uriegas, San Antonio

It's Our Time to Shine at the TML Annual Conference & Exhibition!

By TML Booth Committee Chair **Cara McPartland, TRMC**

City Secretary, Wimberley



Cara McPartland, TRMC

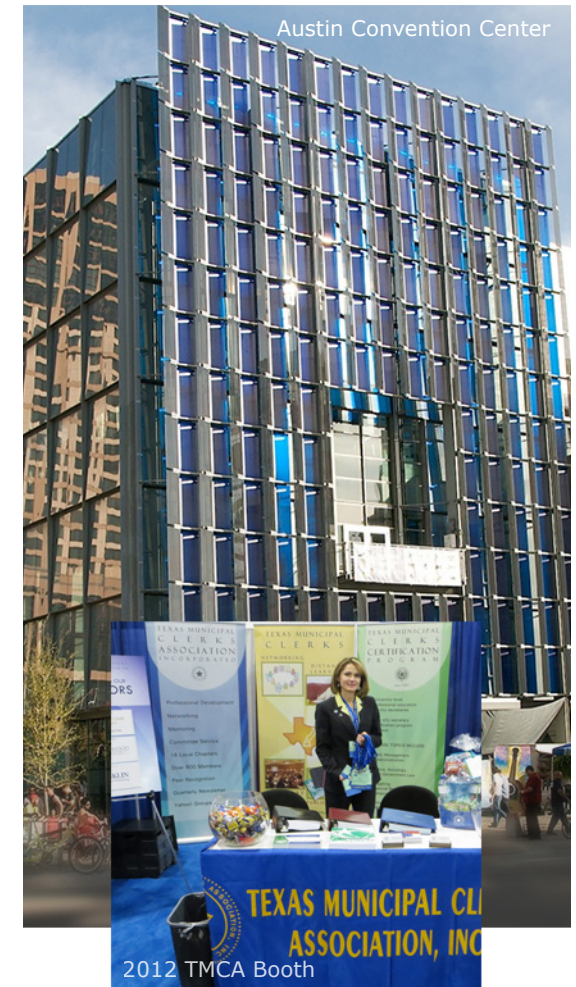
How would you like the chance to serve TMCA and have fun with your peers at the same time? TMCA and the Capital Chapter are calling on enthusiastic volunteers willing to donate a few hours of time at the TMCA booth at the Texas Municipal League's 101st Annual Conference to be held in Austin at the **Austin Convention Center** from **October 8–11, 2013**.

This is the premier venue for promoting the many benefits TMCA has to offer both novice and experienced city secretaries/clerks through its outstanding professional development and continuing educational opportunities, including the highly regarded Certification Program.

Help support TMCA and don't miss this chance to interact and network with your colleagues and city officials from all over Texas, while spreading the word about the value of TMCA in helping city secretaries and clerks to achieve their highest level of competence and develop as respected leaders in their communities.

If you plan to attend the conference and would like to work one or more shifts at the TMCA booth, please call me at **(512) 847-0025** or email me at **cmcpartland@cityofwimberley.com**.

I look forward to hearing from you and hope to see you in the beautiful City of Austin this October! ★



TMCCP Legislative Update Seminar

August 15-16, 2013, San Marcos, Texas

TMCCP's "Legislative Update" Seminar in August in San Marcos was both informative and fun. Moderator Alan Bojorquez, Bojorquez Law Firm, and great team of presenters covered an array of valuable topics.

Thank you to the TMCA Capital Chapter for providing great goodie bags for attendees! ★



IIMC News

By IIMC Region IV Director **Mary Kayser, TRMC**
City Secretary, Fort Worth

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Mary Kayser, TRMC

Be sure to join your fellow Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Mississippi clerks for the **2013 IIMC Region IV** meeting on **December 10-12, 2013**, in **Midwest City, Oklahoma** (*please note the new dates!*) The new Tuesday-Thursday schedule is different, and we will hold a survey after the meeting to solicit feedback as we try to find the best time to hold the meeting. There may not be a perfect time, but we can try to find the one that works best. Good news for Texas: this year's meeting is no longer in conflict with the SOS Election Seminar.

IIMC BULLETIN

Congratulations to **Shelley George, TRMC**, city secretary, Allen, on receiving the Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) designation from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks. To earn the CMC designation, a Municipal Clerk must attend extensive education programs. The designation also requires pertinent experience in a municipality.

Shelley George earned her Texas Registered Municipal Clerk Certification from the TMCCP in 2002, has recertified twice, and is enrolled in her third recertification. She is a longtime and active member of TMCA, and has served on several TMCA committees. She is the current chair of the TMCA Certification Committee.



background © Atselski | Dreamstime.com

*It's almost time to renew your
 TMCA membership!
 You will be able to purchase your
 2014 dues (membership term:
 January 1-December 31, 2014)
 in our **online store**. Look for our
 email reminder in mid-October!*

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Capital Chapter

By Chapter Secretary **Jessica Graefe, TRMC**

City Secretary, Giddings

President Shirley Garvel, city secretary, Elgin, welcomed the presenters and guest to the May meeting at Bickerstaff Health Delgado Acosta, L.L.P., in Austin.

Business of the Capital Chapter was conducted. The following items were approved: minutes, financial report, and contribution to the flower fund.

The revised bylaws for the Capital Chapter, including Clerk of the Year Policy and Procedures and Scholarship Reimbursement Program Guidelines Policy and Procedures, will be presented in September.

It was announced that nominations need to be submitted to the committee by May 17 to meet the June 15 deadline for TMCA Municipal Clerk of the Year.

Betty Brown, TRMC, local government election specialist, Bickerstaff Heath, gave an update on several House bills.

The Capital Chapter looked forward to its Annual Salado Seminar on July 26-27 at Stagecoach Inn in Salado. The presentations included "Investigating Complaints in the Workplace," "End Violence Against Women," and "Fire Safety."



At the May meeting in Austin, Capital Chapter members enjoyed the great meal provided by Janet Rogers, city secretary, West Lake Hills, and Robyn Ryan, city secretary, Rollingwood, during the presentation.

CAPITAL CHAPTER

After the meeting, President Shirley Garvel introduced the presenter and fellow chapter member Jannette Goodall, city clerk, Austin. Jannette and staff presented “Electronic Posting of Municipal Meeting Notices.”

For information please contact Chapter President Shirley Garvel at 512-281-5724 or sgarvel@ci.elgin.tx.us. ★



Austin City Clerk **Jannette Goodall** and staff during their presentation of “Electronic Posting of Municipal Meeting Notices.”

Members in attendance at the May meeting:

Rachel Austin, city secretary, Jonestown

Chapter Treasurer Jeana Bellinger, TRMC,
city secretary, Brenham

Terry Blanchard, city secretary, Rockdale

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

Tammy Cook, TRMC, deputy city clerk, San Marcos

Chapter President Shirley Garvel, city secretary, Elgin

Seth Gipson, management assistant, Hutto

Sylvia Gomez, city clerk, Martindale

Jannette Goodall, city clerk, Austin

Chapter Secretary Jessica Graefe, TRMC, city secretary, Giddings

Debbie Haile, TRMC, city secretary, Leander

Amy Harris, city secretary, Cameron

Christine Martinez, city secretary, Hutto

Sherry Mashburn, TRMC, city secretary, College Station

Cara McPartland, TRMC, city secretary/Court Clerk, Wimberley

Chapter Historian Brenda Page, city secretary, Smithville

Debbie Penberg, administrative assistant, Leander

LeAnn Quinn, TRMC, city secretary, Cedar Park

Myrna Rios, supervisor, Austin

Connie Rodriguez, TRMC, city secretary, Lockhart

Chapter Vice President Janet Rogers,
city secretary, West Lake Hills

Robyn Ryan, city secretary, Rollingwood

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Central Texas Chapter

By Chapter Secretary **Jana Faucett**

Deputy City Secretary, Temple

The Central Texas Chapter held a bi-monthly meeting on June 12. The City of Morgan's Point Resort hosted the meeting at the Garrett and Mic Hill Community Center. Althea Wall, city secretary, Morgan's Point Resort, welcomed everyone. David Huseman, city manager, Morgan's Point Resort, provided opening remarks and thanked everyone in attendance. Hospice Compassus provided lunch and a wonderful presentation regarding hospice care.

Members accepted the nomination committee's selection and presented Jana Faucett, deputy city secretary, Temple, with the Central Texas Chapter Clerk of the Year award. Members also accepted the committee's nomination selecting Christi Shivers, TRMC, city secretary, Mexia, as TMCA Clerk of the Year nominee. Congratulations to Jana and Christi!!



Chapter members at the June meeting in Morgan's Point Resort.

CENTRAL TEXAS CHAPTER

Members also discussed TMCA updates, future chapter meetings, and upcoming seminars.

In other news, the Capital Chapter hosted the Annual Salado Seminar this year on July 26 and 27. The theme was “HOT, HOT, & HOT,” and topics included “Investigating Complaints in the Workplace,” “Four E’s of Leadership,” “End Violence Against Women,” and “Fire Safety.” A fun time was had as always for networking, food, and fun!

The City of Waco hosted the Texas Municipal League Region 9 Meeting on July 25. ★

Chapter members present at the June meeting:

Kaci Allen,
public information director, Robinson

Sandra Barton, city secretary, Robinson

Ronda Cockerham, TRMC,
city secretary, Italy

Jana Faucett, deputy city secretary, Temple

Judy Keally, city secretary, Teague

Lydia Lopez, TRMC, city secretary, Hewitt

Kathy McKenzie, HR director, Robinson

Karen Sanchez, finance director, Robinson

Christi Shivers, TRMC, city secretary, Mexia

Jana Taylor, city secretary, Fairfield

Althea Wall, city secretary,
Morgan’s Point Resort

Roshuna Wiley, deputy city secretary, Mexia



At top: Central Texas Chapter Clerk of the Year **Jana Faucett**, deputy city secretary, Temple. *Above:* TMCA Municipal Clerk of the Year Nominee **Christi Shivers**, TRMC, City Secretary, Mexia.

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Lone Star Chapter

By Chapter President **Diane Zucco, TRMC**
City Secretary, Plano



WHEW! A sense of relief washes over most of us. We've made it through the election season and won't have to study the November Election Calendar. Like most groups, the Lone Star Chapter did not convene in May; but, our June meeting was packed with information including our *Character First* topic, "Faith," from Kathy Wingo, TRMC, city secretary, Lucas; legislative update from Aimee Nemer, TRMC, city secretary, Richardson; and consideration of officer nominations from the floor. Our speaker, Plano Police Officer Christopher Biane, reminded us to be aware of our personal safety at work and at home.

Above: Members at the June meeting. Julie Lollar, TRMC, purchasing coordinator-grant writer-CDBG administrator, Denison; Denise Vice, city secretary, Sachse; Donna Bradshaw, P&Z coordinator, Lucas; Diane Zucco, TRMC, city secretary, Plano; Stephanie Storm, records analyst, Wylie; Shelly George, TRMC, city secretary, Allen; Vickie Schmid, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Richardson; Alice Snyder, TRMC, assistant city secretary, Plano; Carole Kuykendall, assistant city secretary, Greenville; Sandy Hart, TRMC, city secretary, McKinney; Carole Ehrlich, TRMC, city secretary, Wylie; Debbie Newell, city secretary, Greenville; Alice Holloway, TRMC, city secretary, Pilot Point; Lisa Henderson, TRMC, deputy city secretary, The Colony; Kathy Wingo, TRMC, city secretary, Lucas; Christie Wilson, TRMC, city secretary, The Colony; Janis Cable, city secretary, Lowry Crossing; Kristy Ashberry, city secretary/assistant to city manager, Rockwall; Jennifer Faircloth, administrative assistant, Lucas; Carrie Hart, city secretary, Denison; Jacky Casey, assistant to the city secretary, Rockwall; and Jenny Page, TRMC, city secretary, Frisco.

LONE STAR CHAPTER

We celebrated our Clerk of the Year—Lucas City Secretary Kathy Wingo, TRMC—and the successes of Lakewood City Secretary Linda Asbell and Sachse Deputy City Secretary Denise Vice, who both passed TMCCP exams.

On July 11 we held our “Records Management Workday.” A group of more than 100 attended the seminar “on the square” in McKinney to hear updates from the Texas State Library and Archives and the Attorney General’s office. An interactive program on customer service proved a hit with audience members, as did the networking and fellowship. Plans are already underway for 2014 so mark your calendars to join us next July.



Above: Clerk of the Year **Kathy Wingo, TRMC**, city secretary, Lucas, joined by her husband **Everett Wingo** and daughter **Denise Wingo Patterson**.

Left: **The July Lone Star “Records Management Workday” in McKinney.** *Inset:* “Traveled Farthest” to the Records Management Workday (315 miles): **Rosie Poitevint**, city clerk, City of Clute.



LONE STAR CHAPTER

The heat of summer brought the chapter back to Plano in August for a very important meeting. Members heard our *Character First* topic, “Gentleness,” from Kathy Wingo and received reports from our Nomination Committee Chair Carole Ehrlich, TRMC, city secretary, Wylie, and Budget Committee Member Wendy Withers, TRMC, assistant city secretary, Frisco. The group held a lively discussion about future fundraising opportunities, and was inspired to continue lifelong learning by TMCA’s Education Director Dr. Amy Holt.

A sincere thank you goes out to those serving on the chapter board this year. Not only have you supported me in conducting the regular business of our organization, but your contributions of time, talent, patience, and creativity resulted in an exceptional Records Management Workday. It is an honor to serve with President Elect Stephanie Storm, records analyst, Wylie; Secretary Janis Cable, city secretary, Lowry Crossing; Treasurer Jacky Casey, assistant to the city secretary, Rockwall; and Historian Vickie Schmid, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Richardson. ★

Lower Rio Grande Valley Chapter

By Chapter Historian **Ana Valdez**

City Secretary, Peñitas

The Lower Rio Grande Valley Chapter met on May 17 at Pier 19 in South Padre Island. President Hilda Pedraza, TRMC, city clerk, Pharr, opened the floor for the chapter's nominations for the 2013 TMCA Municipal Clerk of the Year. It was approved to nominate Annette Villarreal, TRMC, city secretary, McAllen, to serve as the chapter's candidate.

A donation to the Joseph "Joey" Pustejovsky Jr Education Foundation (the fallen **city secretary** of the City of West), was also approved at the May meeting. President Hilda Pedraza reminded the chapter members of the TMCCP Graduate Institute Seminar, which will be held October 24-25 in South Padre Island.

Clerks and secretaries also had a big part in the May 17 TML Region 12 Workshop at the Schlitterbahn Resort. The members assisted in checking in those who attended the Workshop and in conducting the "behind the scenes" activity to make sure everything went smoothly during the workshop presentations.

On June 19 the chapter met at the Commissioners Chambers in the City of Alton. The guest speaker was Roy Cantu, director of the Public Information Office for the City of McAllen, on the topic of "Social Media." Mr. Cantu presented the pros and



Lower Rio Grande Valley Chapter members pose outside the Pier 19 Restaurant at South Padre Island during the May meeting.

LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY CHAPTER

cons of social media such as Twitter, Facebook, Pinterest, and Instagram. He mentioned that the most common form of social media is Facebook. Social media can be used to communicate with residents of the area, collaborate between cities and online influencers, and to advertise the city's upcoming events.

The chapter also nominated, appointed, and swore in Ana Valdez, city secretary, Penitas, to serve as the chapter's historian.

On July 24 the chapter met at the Tony Butler Golf Course in the City of Harlingen. The guest speaker was Maritza Esqueda, the general manager of Lone Star Shredding & Document Storage, on the topic of "Records Management." Ms. Esqueda explained the importance of cities following a retention schedule for storing or destroying documents. She also recommended that city secretaries research the Texas State Library website to make sure they are in compliance with any laws on records management.

For those wishing to join the LRGV Chapter, please contact President Hilda Pedraza, TRMC, city clerk, Pharr, at

hilda.pedraza@pharr-tx.gov. ★



Guest speaker **Roy Cantu** (center), director of the Public Information Office for the City of McAllen, presents the importance and benefits of social media in the workplace.



Penitas City Secretary **Ana Valdez** is sworn in as historian for the LRGV Chapter by Chapter President **Hilda Pedraza**, TRMC, city clerk, Pharr.

LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY CHAPTER



Above left: Lower Rio Grande Valley Chapter members assisting at the TML Region 12 Workshop at the Schlitterbahn Resort at South Padre Island in May. *Above right:* Chapter Secretary/Treasurer **Baudelia Rojas** (left), city secretary, Alton, and Chapter President **Hilda Pedraza, TRMC**, city clerk, Pharr at the TML Region 12 Workshop.

At right: LRGV Chapter members pose for a group photo at the June meeting in Alton.



LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY CHAPTER

Chapter members in attendance at the July meeting:

Secretary/Treasurer Baudelia Rojas,
city secretary, Alton

Yuri Cantu, San Juan

Arcelia Felix, TRMC, city secretary, Mercedes

Vice President Bobby Rodriguez,
city secretary, San Juan

Amanda Elizondo, TRMC, city secretary, Harlingen

Olga Oberwetter,
city secretary/HR director, La Feria

Susan Hill, city secretary, South Padre Island

Lupita Passemant, city secretary, San Benito



Chapter members at the July meeting in Harlingen.

North Texas Chapter

By Chapter President **Alicia Richardson, TRMC**

City Secretary, Southlake

In the spirit of our wonderful organization... shalom, aloha, hola, greetings, ciao, ellohay, blessings, hello, Kóyo, xin chào!

The North Texas Municipal Clerks Association is finishing strong for the 2012-2013 year. As mentioned in our last article, Vice President Diane Cockrell has lined up great programs for the months of July, August, and September.

In June our chapter recognized the service and contribution of our members. It is not the work of one, but the great work of many that ensures the continued success of our chapter. Our chapter is thankful to the following for their service on one or more committee(s):

2012 Holiday Committee: Chair Laura Bell, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Carrollton; Amy Arnold, TRMC, city secretary, White Settlement; Martha Garcia, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Arlington; and Art Camacho, TRMC, city secretary, Haltom City

2013 Holiday Committee: Chair Aimee Nemer, TRMC, city secretary, Richardson; Laura Bell, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Carrollton; Martha Garcia, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Arlington; and Monica Solko, TRMC, assistant city secretary, North Richland Hills

Alyce Deering Scholarship Committee: Chair Jesica McEachern, city secretary, Bridgeport; Aimee Nemer, TRMC, city secretary, Richardson; and Traci Riggs, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Southlake



2013 NTMCA committee members at the June meeting.

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER

Bylaws Committee: Chair Diane Callahan, TRMC, city secretary, Highland Village, and Ron Gonzales, TRMC, assistant city secretary, Fort Worth

Audit Committee: Chair Art Camacho, TRMC, city secretary, Haltom City, and Diane Callahan, TRMC, city secretary, Highland Village

Legislative Committee: Chair Jesica McEachern, city secretary, Bridgeport; Kim Sutter, TRMC, city secretary, Euless, and Mary Supino, city secretary, Arlington

Membership Committee: Kim Sutter, TRMC, city secretary, Euless

Municipal Clerk of the Year: Kim Sutter, TRMC, city secretary, Euless, and Carol Borges, city secretary, Westworth Village

Nominating Committee: Chair Sherry Reeves, TRMC, city secretary, Grandview; Diane Callahan, TRMC, city secretary, Highland Village, and Martha Garcia, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Arlington

Professional Seminar: Chair Mary Supino, city secretary, Arlington; Shannon DePrater, TRMC, town secretary, Crossroads, and Laura Bell, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Carrollton

Technology/Communications Committee: Mary Supino, city secretary, Arlington, and Monica Solko, TRMC, assistant city secretary, North Richland Hills

In June we also awarded two \$500.00 Alyce Deering Scholarships. The scholarship program was created to encourage professionalism and continuing education of Texas municipal clerks by offsetting costs incurred while attending TMCCP seminars. This year's recipients were Linda Rhodes, TRMC, city secretary, Lake Worth, and Laura Bell, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Carrollton.



Chapter President **Alicia Richardson** (at right in both photos), TRMC, city secretary, Southlake, presented Alyce Deering Scholarships to **Linda Rhodes** (left), TRMC, city secretary, Lake Worth, and **Laura Bell** (right), TRMC, deputy city secretary, Carrollton.

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER

The chapter also named the NTMCA 2013 Municipal Clerk of the Year—Alicia Richardson, TRMC, city secretary, Southlake; and NTMCA’s nominee for the 2013 TMCA Municipal Clerk of the Year—Art Camacho, TRMC, city secretary, Haltom City. In attendance to join Alicia and Art on their award and nomination were Southlake’s Mayor John Terrell and City Manager Shana Yelverton, and Haltom City’s Mayor Richard Hutchison and City Manager Tom Muir.



Above, from left to right: Southlake City Manager **Shana Yelverton**; NTMCA Chapter Municipal Clerk of the Year **Alicia Richardson, TRMC**; and Mayor **John Terrell**.

Top right, from left to right: Municipal Clerk of the Year Committee Member **Carol Borges**, city secretary, Westworth Village; NTMCA TMCA Municipal Clerk of the Year Nominee **Art Camacho, TRMC**, city secretary, Haltom City; NTMCA Chapter Municipal Clerk of the Year **Alicia Richardson, TRMC**, city secretary, Southlake; and Municipal Clerk of the Year Committee Member **Kim Sutter, TRMC**, city secretary, Euless.

Near right, from left to right: Haltom City Mayor **Richard Hutchison**; Deputy City Secretary **Donna Pliska, TRMC**; NTMCA TMCA Municipal Clerk of the Year Nominee **Art Camacho, TRMC**; and City Manager **Tom Muir**.



NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER



NTMCA members at the July meeting.

Nominating Committee Chair Sherry Reeves, TRMC, city secretary, Grandview, presented the 2013-2014 slate of NTMCA officers to the membership:

President – Diane Cockrell, TRMC, city secretary, Decatur

Vice President – April Hill, TRMC, city secretary, Roanoke

Secretary – Shannon DePrater, TRMC, town secretary, Cross Roads

Treasurer – Mary Supino, city secretary, Arlington

Historian – Angela Winkle, TRMC, city secretary, Crowley

At our June meeting, the membership approved the April 17 meeting minutes and the April and May monthly treasurer reports.

In July our chapter met in Arlington where our guest speaker, Stephen Booher, provided us with tools for “Mastering your Superpowers of Employee Engagement.” Mr. Booher reviewed the four types of employees: engaged, enrolled, disenchanting, and disengaged, and provided examples of how to coach each type. He shared Kevin Kruse’s definition of “employee engagement”: the emotional commitment the employee has to the organization and its goals. Although just an hour, Mr. Booher discussed and shared trends, models, and employee engagement resources for attendees. Here are a few books for your library: *5 First* by Mel Kleiman; *Employee Engagement* by Kevin Kruse; *Solution #1* by Price Pritchett;

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER

and *You Already Know How to Be Great* by Alan Fine. I encourage you to pick up one or more for your library.

Chapter business considered at our July meeting included the June 12 meeting minutes; the June monthly treasurer report; and the third quarter treasurer report (April-June 2013).

Lastly, we had the honor of hosting TMCA President Norma Aguilar-Grimaldo, TRMC, city secretary, Odessa, at our July meeting. We were happy that President Grimaldo had the opportunity to experience the quality speakers and programs our chapter hosts as we seek to empower and educate our members.

In rounding up our final meetings for this fiscal year, our chapter will meet in August and September. If you are close, please join us. Please note that Dr. Amy Holt will be presenting at our September meeting: September 18—City of Haltom City—guest speaker Dr. Amy Holt, presenting “Leading with Questions.” ★

NTMCA members at the July meeting:

Laura Bell, TRMC,
deputy city secretary, Carrollton

Holly Blake, Southlake

Cathy Bourg,
deputy city secretary, Burleson

Peggy Burnside, TRMC,
administrative director, TMCA/TMCCP

Diane Callahan, TRMC,
city secretary, Highland Village

Art Camacho, TRMC,
city secretary, Haltom City

Diane Cockrell, TRMC,
city secretary, Decatur

Stephanie Dimas,
administrative aide I, Arlington

Kelly Edwards, TRMC,
town secretary, Westlake

Martha Garcia, TRMC,
deputy city secretary, Arlington

TMCA President Norma Aguilar-
Grimaldo, TRMC, city secretary, Odessa

Julie Heinze, city secretary, Lewisville

Susie Hiles,
assistant to the city manager, Azle

April Hill, TRMC,
city secretary, Roanoke

Dr. Amy Holt,
education director, TMCA/TMCCP

Susan House, TRMC,
assistant city secretary, Mesquite

Amanda Jacobs,
assistant city secretary, Bedford

Sonja Land, TRMC,
city secretary, Mesquite

Christine Loven,
assistant city secretary, Colleyville

Amanda McCrory, TRMC,
city secretary, Burleson

Jesica McEachern,
city secretary, Bridgeport

Linda Rhodes, TRMC,
city secretary, Lake Worth

Alicia Richardson, TRMC,
city secretary, Southlake

Theresa Scott, TRMC,
town secretary, Flower Mound

Miriam Sheehan, TRMC,
administrative assistant, TMCA/TMCCP

Tina Stewart,
administrative aide I, Arlington

Mary Supino, city secretary, Arlington

Kim Sutter, TRMC,
city secretary, Euless

Norma Zenk, TRMC, city secretary, Azle

Diane Zucco, TRMC,
city secretary, Plano

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Northeast Texas Chapter

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

The Northeast Texas Chapter sends greetings to all our chapters, with “warm” wishes for a sizzling summer! The chapter enjoyed a break from the office in June when they met in Nash, with City Secretary Jennifer Studdard and her Court Clerk Kelli Harris as our hostesses. Bullard City Secretary Doris Bullard received a gift for travelling the farthest. Vice President Sherry Roberts, TRMC, city secretary/office manager, White Oak, provided an excellent presentation on legislative updates for our program. After touring the beautiful facility, the group enjoyed lunch at Ironwood Grill in beautiful downtown Nash.

Please remember in your thoughts and prayers our dear friend, Deanna McCasland, city secretary, Overton, in her time of illness. If you would like more information or to make a donation, please contact Tyler City Clerk Cassandra Brager: cbrager@tylertexas.com.

TMCA President Norma Aguilar-Grimaldo, TRMC, city secretary, Odessa, will be our guest speaker on October 4 in Canton. We invite everyone to join us as we get to



Northeast Texas Chapter members at their June meeting in Nash. Jennifer Studdard, city secretary, Nash; Doris Crockett, city secretary, Bullard; Cassandra Brager, city clerk, Tyler; Deborah Dane, city clerk, Kilgore; Vickie Brenton, TRMC, city secretary, Winnsboro; Sherry Roberts, TRMC, city secretary/officer manager, White Oak; Rosena Becker-Ross, city secretary/court admin., Mount Enterprise.

NORTHEAST TEXAS CHAPTER

know this remarkable lady, a great example for all of us. In the meantime, don't let budgets, PIA requests, demanding councils, or the heat get you down; remember: "a large oak tree is just a little nut that refused to give up." ★

Those attending the June meeting were:

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

Cassandra Brager, city clerk, Tyler

Vickie Brenton, TRMC, city secretary, Winnsboro

Doris Bullard, city secretary, Bullard

Deborah Dane, city clerk, Kilgore

Vice President Sherry Roberts, TRMC, city secretary, White Oak

Secretary-Treasurer Jennifer Studdard, city secretary, Nash



Sherry Roberts, TRMC, city secretary/officer manager, White Oak, presents Legislative Updates.

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Panhandle Chapter

By **Gretchen Mercer, TRMC**
City Secretary, Canyon

The Panhandle Chapter met April 18 at the Amarillo Club and celebrated the retirement of Canadian City Secretary Terry South after 29 years of dedicated service. Chapter members gave Terry cards and gifts and shared memories of past seminars and times shared by the group.

The Panhandle Chapter also met June 20 at the Amarillo Club. Chapter Vice President Cheryl Salgado, TRMC, city secretary/assistant city manager, Spearman, presented “Effects of Colors on Moods and Energy of Fellow Workers,” demonstrating how the color of apparel can create moods from invigorating and exciting to calm and soothing.

The Panhandle Chapter would like to welcome our newest members, Kristina Solomon, city secretary, Tulia, and Kathy Styles, city secretary, Perryton. ★

Current members of the Panhandle Chapter:

- | | |
|---|--|
| Frances Childers, city secretary, Dalhart | Andrea Rains, finance secretary, Amarillo |
| Machiel Covey, city secretary, Clarendon | Kim Rehkopf, city secretary, Dumas |
| Suzanne Finch, TRMC, city secretary, Hereford | Cheryl Salgado, TRMC, city secretary/asst. city mgr., Spearman |
| Charlene Gardner, TRMC, dep. city secretary, Pampa | Stella Sauls, TRMC, city secretary, Borger |
| Francis Hibbs, city secretary, Amarillo | Kim Sloat, city secretary, Canadian |
| Gretchen Mercer, TRMC, city secretary, Canyon | Kristina Solomon, city secretary, Tulia |
| Patricia Phipps, TRMC, city secretary/city mgr., Friona | Kathy Styles, city secretary, Perryton |
| Karen Price, TRMC, city secretary, Pampa | Nelwyn Ward, city secretary, Memphis |
| | Ronnie Williams, Panhandle |



The Panhandle Chapter celebrated Canadian City Secretary **Terry South's** retirement.

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Pineywoods Chapter

By Chapter President **Kara Atwood**

City Secretary, Lufkin

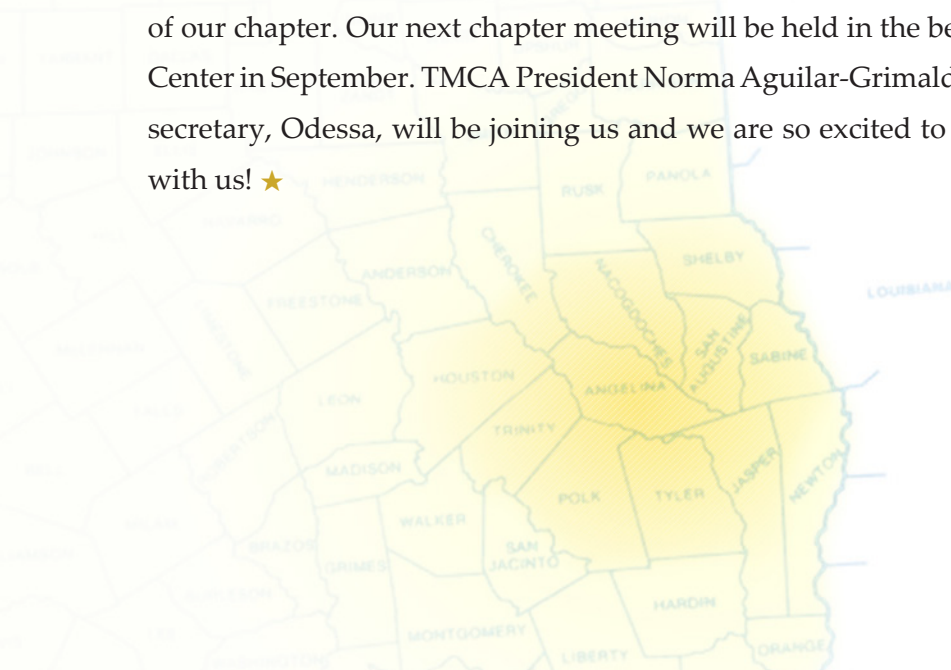
Greetings from the Pineywoods!

The Pineywoods Chapter held their quarterly meeting in June of this year. The City of Lufkin hosted the luncheon at Manhattan’s Restaurant in downtown Lufkin. City of Lufkin Mayor Bob Brown was on hand to welcome our members and joined us for lunch. The chapter honored President Betsy Gregson, city secretary/finance officer (retired), Huntington, and member Tina Cavazos, city secretary (retired), Diboll. Both of these exceptional ladies have retired from municipal government. We wish them both well in their endeavors.

I am very honored to have been selected to succeed Betsy Gregson as president of our chapter. Our next chapter meeting will be held in the beautiful city of Center in September. TMCA President Norma Aguilar-Grimaldo, TRMC, city secretary, Odessa, will be joining us and we are so excited to have her visit with us! ★



The Pineywoods Chapter Members at their June Meeting.



TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Red River Chapter

By Chapter Vice President & Secretary/Treasurer **Janelle Dolan, TRMC**
City Clerk, Burkburnett

Members of the Red River Chapter met for our quarterly meeting at Pasquals Restaurant in Wichita Falls, "Pride of the Falls, Blue Skies and Golden Opportunities," on June 19.

President Byers called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

Business of the Red River Chapter was conducted. The minutes of March 20 meeting were approved, as well as the treasurer's report through March 7. Discussion was held on a future program for our chapter meeting.

It was requested that those attending the upcoming August TMCCP Legislative Update Seminar to bring any available handouts and provide an update to the other members. Our chapter has benefited greatly when those that attend the seminars share what they have learned with the others.

The Red River Chapter was very fortunate to have TMCA President Norma Grimaldo, TRMC, city secretary,



The Red River Chapter at their June meeting in Wichita Falls.

RED RIVER CHAPTER

Odessa, as our speaker at this meeting. President Grimaldo spoke about the TMCA Salary Survey that was recently completed. She stated **the survey** will stay available on the Texas Municipal Clerks website and can be used for future budget purposes. President Grimaldo reported that TMCCP Education Director Dr. Amy Holt has finished all homework in the four TMCCP courses in pursuit of her TRMC Certification and only has to attend the remaining of her required seminars. President Grimaldo told us of possible future plans to make online courses available for the Certification Program. She reminded the chapter we can always volunteer to help with scanning or convening at the TMCCP seminars.

President Grimaldo provided a very informative and uplifting presentation on our abilities and how to be successful in our personal and professional lives. She stated we all have good qualities and we need to recognize our strengths and weaknesses. She also reminded us that our self-worth is more than what others think of us. President Grimaldo stated we need to trust and believe in ourselves and we need to have positive attitudes. She reminded us that we are responsible for how we view our lives. President Grimaldo ended her presentation with an account of some personnel actions that occurred in her office and how she handled a very challenging situation. President Grimaldo's presentation was thoroughly enjoyed by our chapter.

We announced upcoming seminars and Athenian Dialogues, encouraging each other to attend and to carpool whenever possible.

Our next meeting will be held September 18 at Pasquals Restaurant. Everyone is invited to attend any of our chapter meetings.

For more information about the chapter contact Janelle Dolan, city clerk, Burkburnett, at jdolan@burkburnett.org or 940-569-2263. ★

Members in attendance at the June seminar:

Amy Anderson, city secretary, Lakeside City

Marie Balthrop, TRMC, city secretary, Holliday

Linda Byers, TRMC, city secretary, Vernon

Janelle Dolan, city clerk, Burkburnett

Kim Hemmi, city secretary, Scotland

Nita Hons, utility billing supervisor, Seymour

Cathy Mills, city secretary, Henrietta

Conchita Torrez, TRMC, city secretary, Seymour

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Salt Grass Chapter

By Chapter Secretary **Lee Woodward, TRMC**
City Secretary, Huntsville

Salt Grass Summer

The Salt Grass Chapter took a three-month hiatus after its April meeting, but was delighted at spring's end in May to hear of Chapter Historian Robin Eldridge's move from Deputy City Secretary of Deer Park to City Clerk for the City of La Marque!

Robin first joined TMCA in the City of La Porte, and had prior municipal experience from the City of Shoreacres. She said, "I brought with me to the City of La Marque some very good ideas and working experience that I gained while working under some awesome city secretaries (La Porte City Secretary Martha Gillett [ret.], TRMC; La Porte City Secretary Patrice Fogarty, TRMC; and Deer Park City Secretary Sandra Watkins, TRMC). I know if I get stumped, that I have so many friends and colleagues through TMCA and the Salt Grass Chapter to help guide the way." The chapter wishes Robin Eldridge, TRMC, city clerk, La Marque, a long, happy, and successful career.



Robin Eldridge, TRMC, city clerk, La Marque (at center right), at her new city.

SALT GRASS CHAPTER

The celebration of the summer was the well-deserved retirement of Sue Daniel, city secretary, Humble. The chapter was notified by Chapter President Maria Gonzalez, city secretary, Missouri City:

Chapter!

After 32 years of public service, Sue Daniel is packing up her heels and saying farewell to the City of Humble. Join me in congratulating Sue as she enters a more relaxed phase in her life... the life of retirement! No more City Council meetings, no more agendas, no more minutes, no more elections!

What a fantastic journey you've been on, Sue! How wonderful it is to see your city blossom and develop for the past 32 years!

Sue—know this is the beginning of endless possibilities; the world is now on your schedule. Many congratulations!!

In other chapter news, all are reminded that the annual Salt Grass Chapter Public Information Act Seminar in Deer Park has been moved to September 11 this year, to be able to incorporate any relevant legislative action.

The chapter's next meeting is scheduled for August 7 in Webster. Webster City Secretary Pauline Small, TRMC, and Deputy City Secretary Crystal Roan, TRMC, will host the meeting.

Guests are always welcome! For more information on the Salt Grass Chapter, please contact President Maria Gonzalez, TRMC, city secretary, Missouri City, at mgonzalez@missouricitytx.gov. ★

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

South Plains Chapter

By Chapter Secretary **Belinda Terrell**
City Secretary, Whiteface

The South Plains Chapter met on June 19 at Orlando's Restaurant in Lubbock. The meeting was hosted by the City of Smyer, City Secretary JoAnn Beard, TRMC.

JoAnn Beard introduced Amanda Godlove from Advanced Graphix in Lubbock. Amanda spoke on how to promote your city with signs and promotional items. Morton City Secretary/Manager Brenda Shaw, TRMC, won the door prize.

President Maria Hatchett, TRMC, city secretary, Lamesa, called the meeting to order and welcomed members and guests. Guests included speaker Amanda Godlove; Jaime Torres, director of public works, Smyer; and Jennifer Rempe, Franklin Legal Publishing.

President Maria Hatchett read two thank you notes: Toni Chrestman thanked everyone for the beautiful bowl and Kirk Franklin thanked the chapter for making him an honorary chapter member.

The treasurer's report was approved as presented.

Members and guest attending were:

Selia Arellano, city secretary, Floydada

JoAnn Beard, TRMC, city secretary, Smyer

Sue Castles, Xcel Energy

Toni Chrestman, TRMC, city secretary, Slaton

Kami Eady, city secretary, Hale Center

Debbie Gressett, TRMC, city secretary, Seminole

Thomas Harris III, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Lubbock

Maria Hatchett, TRMC, city secretary, Lamesa

Jodie House, city secretary, Crosbyton

Monica Lopez, city secretary, Lorenzo

Magen Murchison, Lubbock

Kim Perez, city secretary, Ralls

Brenda Shaw, TRMC, city secretary/manager, Morton

Belinda Terrell, city secretary, Whiteface

Sharon Trumble, city secretary, New Deal

Beth Walls, TRMC, city secretary, Levelland

Deana Watson, TRMC, city secretary, Post

Cynthia Williams, TRMC, assistant city secretary, Post

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

Guests: Jennifer Rempe, Franklin Legal Publishing; speaker Amanda Godlove, Advanced Graphix; Jaime Torres, director of public works, Smyer.

SOUTH PLAINS CHAPTER

A motion carried for the change of Toni Wilson instead of Toni Chrestman on the Nominating Committee for the 2013 Municipal Clerk of the Year (which had been approved at the March 20 meeting).

Kim Perez gave an update on the 2013 Annual Chapter Seminar. The date is set for November 22 at the Lubbock Garden and Arts Center. Motion carried to buy the book *We Band of Angels*.

Committee Chair Beth Walls, TRMC, city secretary, Levelland,

gave the report on appointment of Municipal Clerk of the Year. The committee recommended LeAnn Gallman, TRMC, city secretary, Muleshoe, as the chapter's Texas Municipal Clerk of the Year nominee for 2013. Brenda Shaw, TRMC, city secretary/manager, Morton, was appointed as the 2013 South Plains Chapter Clerk.

The next meeting was set for September 18. Debbie Gressett, TRMC, city secretary, Seminole will be hosting the next meeting. ★

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

West Texas Chapter

By Chapter President **Amy Turner, TRMC**

City Secretary, Midland

The West Texas Chapter met for their quarterly meeting on May 15 at Mi Piachi Italian Restaurante in Odessa.

The West Texas Chapter set a September 30 deadline for its 2014 scholarship application. Scholarship application forms will be sent out September 1. The Scholarship Committee will review all applications and make recommendations for approval at the fall meeting. The following people were appointed to the scholarship committee: Tonya Todd, TRMC, city secretary, Wink; Norma Aguilar-Grimaldo, TRMC, city secretary, Odessa; and Heather Ramirez, city secretary, Pecos.

The West Texas Chapter unanimously approved nomination of Norma Grimaldo, TRMC, city secretary, Odessa, for 2013 TMCA Municipal Clerk of the Year.

Following the business meeting, Russell Haddock of MCCi Innovations gave a presentation entitled "Simplifying your Content, Simplifying your Life" and spoke regarding electronic records management.

The next quarterly meeting was scheduled for August 21 in Midland.



The West Texas Chapter met at Mi Piachi Restaraunte in Odessa. *Back row, from left to right: Heather Ramirez, city secretary, Pecos; Russell Haddock, TRMC, sr. account executive SW Region, MCCi Innovations; Norma Aguilar-Grimaldo, TRMC, city secretary, Odessa; Amy Turner, TRMC, city secretary, Midland; SueAnn Reyes, deputy city secretary, Midland; Elodia Gomez, deputy clerk, McCamey. Front row left to right: Adriana Moreno, deputy city secretary, Midland; Karen Bullard, city secretary, Crane; Syndi Cadena, bookkeeper, Crane; and Alma Acosta, city secretary, McCamey.*

WEST TEXAS CHAPTER

Attendees of the West Texas Chapter's May meeting:

Alma Acosta, city secretary, McCamey

Karen Bullard, city secretary, Crane

Syndi Cadena, bookkeeper, Crane

Elodia Gomez, McCamey

Norma Grimaldo, TRMC, city secretary, Odessa

Adriana Moreno, deputy city secretary, Midland

Heather Ramirez, city secretary, Pecos

SueAnn Reyes, deputy city secretary, Midland

Tonya Todd, TRMC, city secretary, Wink

Amy Turner, TRMC, city secretary, Midland

Guest: Russell Haddock, MCCi Innovations

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Yellow Rose Chapter

By Chapter Vice President **Dolle Downe, TRMC**

City Secretary, Lancaster

New Faces and Changing Places

Dr. Seuss' popular book, *Oh, the Places You'll Go!* might just describe the Yellow Rose Chapter to a "T." With meetings held in the cities of Waxahachie, Lancaster, and most recently Cedar Hill, our chapter is, well... everywhere in our region. Just as noticeable and most impressive are the new faces that have visited each meeting: City Secretary Amanda McCrory, TRMC, and Deputy City Secretary Cathy Bourg from Burleson; Alicia Thomas, DeSoto; Amy Jo Ray and City Secretary Julie Featherston, Garrett; and Connie Hearne, Glenn Heights, all visited at our June meeting in Cedar Hill. Terri Miller from Glenn Heights and Robbyn Devore from Seagoville were at chapter meetings earlier in the year. The Yellow Rose Chapter is happy that we are still welcoming new faces as we approach our first anniversary as a chapter.

Chapter President Lyn Hill, city secretary, Cedar Hill, was unanimously named the first Yellow Rose Chapter Municipal Clerk of the Year. Lyn's focused efforts and leadership to bring together city secretaries/clerks in southern Dallas, northern Ellis, and Tarrant Counties into a new TMCA chapter was phenomenal. She championed the cause, seeing a clear need for a new chapter to provide support and geographic proximity for networking. What's so distinctive about Lyn is her uncanny ability to see the "extraordinary" in each member and connect with that member exactly where that member is in her career as a municipal clerk and in life. If you've talked with



Chapter President Lyn Hill, city secretary, Cedar Hill, was unanimously named the first Yellow Rose Chapter Municipal Clerk of the Year.

YELLOW ROSE CHAPTER

Lyn for any length of time, you know you have a “forever” friend. Congratulations to Lyn! It was the chapter’s pleasure to honor Lyn at our August meeting. You have inspired us all.

Also at our August meeting we were excited to welcome another face and friend, TMCA President Norma Aguilar-Grimaldo, TRMC, city secretary, Odessa. Norma’s update regarding TMCA activities was informative, and her personal message about perseverance, ethics and facing the challenges in our profession was insightful. The Yellow Rose Chapter is delighted with all the new faces and an ever-growing circle of like-minded colleagues, enthusiastic about being in municipal government and in serving its elected officials and citizens. We welcome you to join us. ★



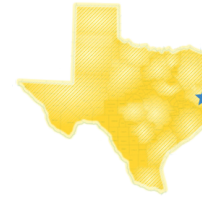
Chapter President Lyn Hill, city secretary, Cedar Hill, with visiting TMCA President Norma Aguilar-Grimaldo, TRMC, city secretary, Odessa.

TMCA Chapters



HILL COUNTRY CHAPTER

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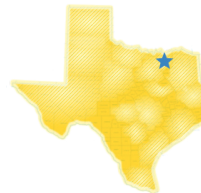
PINEYWOODS CHAPTER

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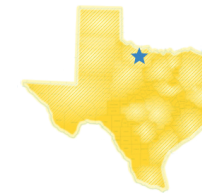
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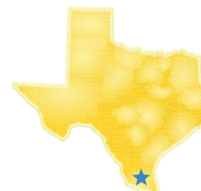
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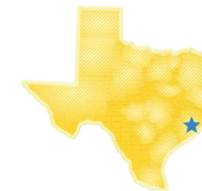
BLUEBONNET CHAPTER

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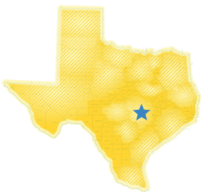
LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY CHAPTER

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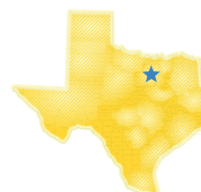
SALT GRASS CHAPTER

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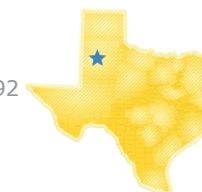
CAPITAL CHAPTER

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NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER

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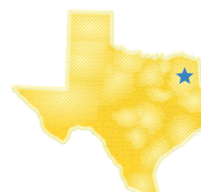
SOUTH PLAINS CHAPTER

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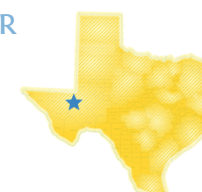
CENTRAL TEXAS CHAPTER

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NORTHEAST TEXAS CHAPTER

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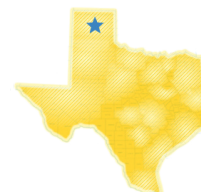
WEST TEXAS CHAPTER

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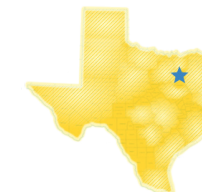
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Advisory Management Committee
LeAnn Gallman, Muleshoe, Immediate Past President, Chair
Art Camacho, Haltom City, President Elect
Patricia Ervin, Waco, Past President
Norma Aguilar-Grimaldo, Odessa, President
Shelley George, Allen, Certification Comm. Chair
Peggy Burnside, TMCCP/TMCA Admin. Dir. *
Amy Holt, TMCCP/TMCA Education Director*

Audit Committee
Laure Morgan, Hemphill, Chair
Jeana Bellinger, Brenham
Tonya Todd, Wink
Art Camacho, Haltom City, Board Liaison

Historian
Amanda Elizondo, Harlingen
**non-voting member*

Membership Committee
Gretchen Mercer, Canyon, Chair
Comprised of Chapter Presidents
Scarlet Swoboda, Victoria, Board Liaison

Municipal Clerk of the Year Committee
Kathy Wingo, Lucas, Chair
Brenda Dennis, Schertz
Arcelia Felix, Mercedes
Thomas Harris, Lubbock
Sherry Roberts, White Oak
Michael Wells, Bedford
Sandra Watkins, Deer Park, Board Liaison

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Irma Parker, Port Aransas
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Annette Villarreal, McAllen
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Technology Committee
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Melinda Welsh, Friendswood

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