



TMCA NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE
TEXAS MUNICIPAL CLERKS ASSOCIATION, INC.

From the President's Corner

Setting goals and objectives has always been primary to success. I have been told that the more things change, the more they stay the same. Hopefully we can achieve the best of both this year as we learn the responsibilities, demands, and joys of TMCA chapter leadership roles and membership participation and satisfaction. We have the nucleus of a professional staff and keen members who are eager to see how the executive board will keep up the traditions of TMCA and establish new levels of achievement. Just as soldiers march in unison, it is my hope that the members of TMCA and the executive board come together in unison in all aspects of our TMCA lives and activities. TMCA members, and even members from other state organizations, praise TMCA for its strengths in education, unity, and zeal whenever and wherever its members come together for any group activity or learning opportunity. Let's continue that tradition and have fun doing it. I ask you to take an active part in participation at TMCA seminars and provide feedback and new ideas for our Association. You are our past, present, and future leaders. TMCA needs you and your support.



President
Patrice Fogarty, TMCA

In my newsletter articles this year, I will discuss with you how to create a culture of service—how to create superior customer service that lasts. Customer service is what we are all about. Creating superior customer service that lasts is our goal. The process of becoming first class in customer service is a difficult journey and requires much more than an occasional speech or a program of the year. It is hard work!

CONTENTS

- | | |
|--|---|
| From the President's Corner
page 1 | 2006 TMCA Clerk of the Year
page 4 |
| TMCA 20th Anniversary
page 2 | TML Report
page 4 |
| TMCCP Seminar - Municipal Debt
Creation & Administration
page 3 | Scholarships
page 5 |
| TMCCP Seminar - Media
Relations & Communication
page 3 | Questys Solutions Funds
TMCCP Scholarship
page 7 |
| | TMCCP Election Law Seminar
Photos
page 8 |
| | IIMC Report
page 11 |
| | Necrology
page 12 |
| | Chapter News
page 13 |
| | Chapter
Contact Information
page 19 |



Cities can distinguish themselves by every employee providing excellent customer service. Citizens and vendors will continue to trust someone with whom they share a relationship. Another reason to provide excellent customer service is because citizens talk! The average unhappy citizen will tell at least nine people about their experience, and these secondhand conversations can be very damaging to your reputation.

As a leader and public servant you must begin the process of creating a culture of service.

Municipal Clerks Week
April 30-May 6
[click here to learn more](#)

TMCA News is published by:

Texas Municipal Clerks Association, Inc.

University of North Texas, PO Box 305067, Denton, Texas 76203; Ph 940-565-3488; Fx 940-565-2012; www.unt.edu/municlerks

Vol. XVII, No. 1, March 2006

Co-Editors: Joyce Snay, TRMC; Alexandra Burke; and Peggy Burnside

DEADLINE FOR PUBLICATION:
 MAY 1 FOR THE JUNE NEWSLETTER

Send articles to:
 TMCA, Inc., PO Box 305067, Denton, TX 76203;
 940-565-3488; FAX 940-565-2012; aburke@unt.edu

One definition of culture is the combination of behaviors, actions, and attitudes that define an organization or group of people. What behaviors define your culture? Do your employees at all levels leap into action when there is a high demand for services, or do they continue at a normal, stress free “government” pace? Do your frontline employees show respect for your citizens, even when they are not present? Great organizations that are known for consistently delivering excellent service have invested a lot of time and other resources to ensure each employee does not have to be reminded of the standard of service every day. It is second nature. They know what to do in different circumstances, and they act the same way whether or not their supervisor is watching. This only happens when you create a culture of service.

Paying attention to details is one way to achieve great customer service. View every task as important, no matter the size or perceived value to the organization. How, you ask? Create the expectation that every detail, no matter how small, may be reviewed at any time. Positive reinforcement and praise should be used hand in hand with coaching and discipline. The benefits are numerous and grow exponentially. Employees at all levels will be thorough and strive toward performing their jobs with excellence, not out of fear, but because it is the right thing to do. Problems are much less costly to solve when they are caught early.

Take a look around you for ways you can improve customer service. Your citizens and staff look to you, as a leader, as the highest standard. Are your customer service skills up to the task? We will visit more about this in my next newsletter article.

Patrice Fogarty, TRMC
 2006 TMCA, Inc., President

This year TMCA celebrates its 20th Anniversary. In the October 1985 issue of *TMCA NEWS* (then called the *Association of City Clerks and Secretaries Newsletter*), TMCA President Alice Church, TRMC, city secretary (ret.), Fort Worth, published an article celebrating the passage of HB 2092, which recognized the professional status of Texas clerks and secretaries. The republished article begins below—click the link to read the full article on our website.

“WE’VE COME A LONG WAY—BABY”

Passage of HB 2092 recognizes professional status of Texas Clerks and Secretaries

The signing of HB 2092 by Governor White in May 1985 gave legislative legitimacy to the Certification Program of the State of Texas, and the certificate of graduation means legislative recognition of the City Secretaries and City Clerks’ professionalism.

Through the efforts of Representative Charles Evans of Hurst, who introduced and carried HB 2092 successfully through the legislature, and the constant and persistent help of the officers of the Association, the Legislative Committee, and Dorothy Byrd, the TEXAS MUNICIPAL CLERKS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM has indeed come a long way since 1965, when it was the dream of a few City Secretaries and City Clerks in Texas. This issue of the newsletter is headlining this achievement because of its importance, and because of the history of the program. For those of you who are new to the profession (and many who are just nostalgic), the following is an outline to our professionalism.

CLICK TO READ THE ARTICLE



TMCCP Seminar Municipal Debt Creation & Administration

April 6-7, 2006, Sheraton Grand DFW Hotel
Anyone may attend! Course 3 and Recertification Credit

Sheraton Grand, Hwy 114 & Esters Blvd, 4440 W. John Carpenter Fwy, Irving, Tx; 972-929-8400



Monty Nitcholas

Director Monty Nitcholas, First Southwest Company, Austin, serves as the expert consultant and speaker for the TMCCP Municipal Finance Seminar, at the Sheraton Grand Hotel DFW, Irving. Additional experts from First Southwest Company who will present sessions are: Garry Kimball, Dan Wegmiller, Jennifer Douglas, and Scott McIntrye. The seminar includes current information on the following subjects: municipal debt financing; initiating a financing program; process of issuing debt securities; role of the bond attorney; and arbitrage rebate requirements after a successful debt issue.

Director Nitcholas joined First Southwest Company in 1981 and was appointed manager of the Austin office in 1989. Prior to his employment with First Southwest Company, he served 18 years in municipal government as finance director for the cities of McKinney, Sherman, and Austin, and as county auditor for Collin county. Monty has served as an instructor for the Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program since 1989. He is a graduate of the University of North Texas, Denton. Mr. Nitcholas served as president of the Government Finance Officer of Texas in 1974 and on the Board of Directors of the Texas Municipal League. He is a registered representative with the National Association of Securities Dealers.



Anyone may attend this seminar. The registration brochure was mailed to all Texas city secretaries and Texas finance directors in late February. The information and registration form are also available for download from our website, www.unt.edu/municlerks, or phone the TMCCP office and we will fax you a copy (940-565-3488). The seminar begins on Thursday at 8:00 a.m. and ends on Friday at 12:00 noon. Following the sessions, members may shop at the nearby Grapevine Mills Outlet Mall or the Bass Pro Shop. The hotel offers shuttle transportation for a small fee.

register now!

click here



TMCCP Seminar Media Relations & Communications

June 8-9, 2006, Holiday Inn Park Plaza, Lubbock
Anyone may attend! Course 1 or 2 and Recertification Credit

Holiday Inn Park Plaza, 3201 South Loop 289, Lubbock, Texas; 806-797-3241



Jeff Crilley

Jeff Crilley, Emmy® Award winning reporter, KDFW Fox 4, Dallas-Fort Worth, and author of the book *Free Publicity*, will conduct the two-day TMCCP June seminar in Lubbock. In addition to the Emmy® Award, Mr. Crilley has been recognized by his peers with dozens of national and regional awards including the National Headliners Award, the Edward R. Murrow Award and the Thurgood Marshall Award. In 2004, Jeff was named the Best TV Reporter in the State, by the Texas Associated Press. Mr. Crilley has more than 20 years experience in television news and has made hundreds of national news appearances including CNN, CNN Headline News, FOX News, The Discovery Channel, Good Morning America, and The CBS Early Show. He is a graduate of Michigan State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Communications.

Mr. Crilley is planning activities to develop and practice effective, positive communication skills. Improving your communication skills in a friendly, no-stress atmosphere during the seminar will help you adopt positive, pro-active approaches to your ordinary, day-to-day office responsibilities. You will use these skills everyday to build teams with colleagues, work with mayors and council persons, and interact with citizens. The practical applications of this seminar will increase your personal and professional productivity and provide ways to strengthen the efficiency,



2006 TMCA Municipal Clerk of the Year

By Committee Chair Cheryl Gibson-Salgado, TRMC

Please mail nomination submissions for Texas Municipal Clerk of the Year to Chair Cheryl Gibson-Salgado prior to June 15, 2006. Policy guidelines and nomination forms have been mailed to all local chapter presidents and are available from any committee member. Forms are also available from the TMCCP office (940-565-3488) or on the website: www.unt.edu/municlerks.

Chair: Cheryl Gibson-Salgado, TRMC, City Secretary, City of Spearman, PO Box 37, Spearman TX 79081-0037; phone: 806-659-2524; fax: 806-659-3859. Members: Thelma Lenz, TRMC, City of Missouri City; Carolyn Martin, TRMC, City of Mexia; Aimee Nemer, TRMC, City of Murphy; and Board Liaison Norma Aguilar, TRMC, City of Odessa.

The nominee must meet the following requirements:

1. A municipal clerk who has been an active member of TMCA for at least five years.
2. Must have provided service to other municipal clerks on a local level where the opportunity exists, or on a state level.
3. Must have exhibited leadership abilities.
4. Must have the Texas Registered Municipal Clerk certification.
5. Must currently hold a municipal clerk position.

The Texas Municipal Clerk of the Year Award will be announced at the 2006 Texas Municipal Clerks Association's Awards Ceremony held in conjunction with the TMCCP Graduate Institute in South Padre Island on November 9. All local chapters and/or individuals are urged to honor a member and submit a nomination from their region.

TML Report

By Lydia Ozuna, TML Representative

TML Board met during the TML Conference at the Gaylord Texan Resort in Grapevine October 26, 2005.

Legal Staff reported on the following bills:

Senate Bills:

SB 5 (Telecommunications/Cable Legislation): A hearing pending to determine where we will be on this bill.

SB 7 (Eminent Domain): A issue of local control; there are exceptions to eminent domain.

SB 286 (Open Government Training): New training requirement.

House Bills:

HB 11 (Municipal court Fees): New state fee on municipal court convictions and other city-related legislation.

HB 914 (Conflict of Interest): Effective Jan. 1, 2006 new filing requirement for elected officials and vendors.

TML Director Frank Sturzl informed that effective January 1, 2006, all municipalities were required to implement the Help America Vote Act (HAVA).

Director Sturzl announced that there would be another Special Legislative Session in the spring that will focus on school finance and funding options. The Governor created the Texas Tax Reform Commission chaired by former state comptroller John Sharp. Their charge was to "develop proposals to modernize the state tax system and provide long-term property tax relief as well as sound financing for public schools". That discussion will more than likely center around new or increased state taxes. Municipalities need to remain alert to the any appraisal caps that would result from any of the Commission's proposals. TML will maintain us updated on this and other issues affecting our cities.

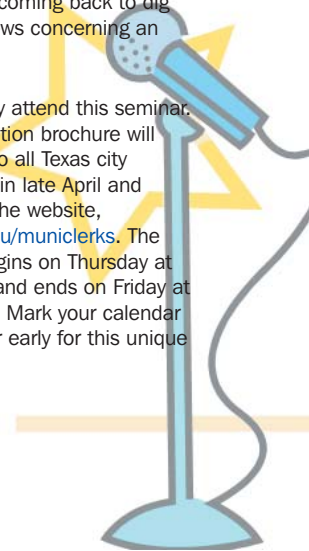
The next TML Board meeting will be March 3 in Austin.

Media Relations & Communciations

effectiveness, and integrity of the municipal clerks' position.

Each seminar participant will receive a copy of Mr. Crilley's book, *Free Publicity*. This book explains how the media works from the point of view of a working journalist. Members who attend the seminar will also learn the secrets of how to get favorable coverage for municipal government events and how to develop an effective two-way relationship with the news media in your local area. Participants will also learn how to write outstanding, newsworthy press releases and practice what to do once the tv news cameras start rolling at your city hall. As Mr. Crilley points out in his book, perhaps one of the most valuable techniques you will learn is how to keep the press from coming back to dig for more news concerning an incident.

Anyone may attend this seminar. The registration brochure will be mailed to all Texas city secretaries in late April and posted on the website, www.unt.edu/municlerks. The seminar begins on Thursday at 8:00 a.m. and ends on Friday at 12:00 p.m. Mark your calendar and register early for this unique session!



Scholarships

Eligible TMCA members are welcome to apply for hundreds of dollars in scholarships every year!



2006 Dorothy F. Byrd Scholarship

By Certification Committee Chair
LaDonna Floyd, TRMC

The TMCA, Inc., Dorothy F. Byrd Scholarship was established in 1993 to honor Director Emeritus Dorothy Byrd, who founded and served as director of TMCCP and TMCA, Inc. from 1968 to 1993. Former City of Andrews city secretary and tax collector, and associate dean of the School of Community Service, University of North Texas, Denton, Director Byrd's achievements include:

1. Serving as president of the Association of City Clerks and Secretaries of Texas, 1964-1965;
2. The establishment of the Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program (TMCCP), which requires four home study courses and examinations, and eight seminars that provide educational and professional development in public administration, municipal finances, supervision, the Texas election laws, and the Texas Local Government Code;
3. The creation of an eighty-hour recertification course of study that requires completion of three texts and book reports, and six seminars;
4. The publication and revisions of the *Texas Municipal Clerks Handbook*, *Texas Municipal Law and Procedure Manual*, and the *Texas Municipal Election Law Manual*; and



2006 Lila Fern Martin Scholarship

By Scholarship Committee
Chair Sandra Watkins, TRMC

On behalf of the Texas Municipal Clerks Association, Inc., the Scholarship Committee is pleased to invite you to apply for the Lila Fern Martin Scholarship. The Lila Fern Scholarship provides financial assistance

to Texas Registered Municipal Clerks and Secretaries who are pursuing a bachelor's or graduate degree in a program of study which directly enhances the recipients professional performance in their job. Bachelor degree applicants must major in government, business administration, finance, management, or economics. Applicants seeking a graduate degree must have completed the institutional requirements for admission to Graduate School for a Master of Arts degree or a Master of Science degree in government, public administration, urban government, business administration, management, finance, or economics. Persons admitted to a doctoral program or a law program will have similar requirements. The maximum amount awarded for one academic year (fall/spring semesters and summer terms) is \$1,000.

The deadline for submitting an application to the chair is April 15, 2006, and may be submitted via fax message (281-542-9796) or via e-mail (swatkins@deerparktx.org). The recipient

Scholarships

TMCCP Scholarship
up to \$200 for TMCCP
seminar registration costs

TMCCP Travel Stipend
up to \$300 for TMCCP
seminar travel costs

2006 Dorothy F. Byrd
Scholarship
up to \$500 for qualified
study expenses

2006 Franklin Legal
Publishing Scholarship
up to \$500 for TMCCP
course study

2006 Lila Fern Martin
Scholarship
up to \$1,000 for TRMCs
pursuing bachelor's or
graduate degree

2006 Municipal Code
Corporation Scholarship
up to \$500 for TMCCP
course study

2006 Questys Solutions
Scholarship
up to \$500 for TMCCP
course study

Byrd Scholarship

5. Passage of HB 2092, which was signed by Texas Governor White in 1985 which gives legislative legitimacy to TMCCP and to the office of the municipal clerk.

In 1994 Director Emeritus Byrd was a co-recipient of the first Institute Director's Award of Excellence presented by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the scholarship is to advance the education, professional development, and job performance of Texas municipal clerks by providing financial assistance to members who are enrolled in TMCCP, or who are pursuing a college or university degree in a program of study that directly enhances the recipient's professional job performance.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The TMCA Certification Committee will award the Dorothy F. Byrd Scholarship. The deliberation of the committee is confidential and the selection by the committee is final. The voting members of the 2006 committee are: Chair LaDonna Floyd, TRMC, city clerk, Nederland; Arthur Camacho, Jr., TRMC, city secretary, Azle; Susie Quinn, TRMC, city secretary, Rowlett; Toni Wilson, TRMC, city secretary, Sundown; Sherry Mashburn, TRMC, city secretary, Bee Cave; and, Dr. Joyce Snay, TRMC, executive director, TMCCP/TMCA, Inc.

SCHOLARSHIP ADMINISTRATION

The chair of the Certification Committee must receive the scholarship application by **April 30**. Applications postmarked or faxed that are dated after April 30 of the specified year will be returned. Scholarship recipients will be announced to the membership at the TMCA Annual Awards function held in conjunction with TMCCP's Graduate Institute Seminar, November 9-10, in South Padre.

The TMCA treasurer disburses scholarship funds to a recipient on a cost-reimbursement basis not to exceed the amount(s) awarded. The recipients(s) shall be reimbursed for qualifying expenses incurred between January 1 and December 31 of the year following the award of the scholarship.

Cost reimbursable expenses are exclusive to: 1. Cost of enrollment, textbooks, and seminar registration fees; 2. Credit-hour tuition fees (extension and correspondence courses listed in the institutional catalog that apply to a recipient's degree plan are acceptable); 3. Building use fees; 4. Student service fees; 5. Identification card fees; 6. Publication fees; 7. Union building fees; 8. Property damage fees; 9. Science laboratory fees; and, 10. Academic department fees. A recipient must submit original, official receipts issued by TMCCP, the college, or the university to receive payment for reimbursable expenses.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

A. General Requirements

Eligible applicants shall be current paid members of TMCA, Inc., for two consecutive years previous to application for the scholarship. Applicants must be actively pursuing certification or recertification in TMCCP.

B. Bachelor's Degree Requirements

Applicants pursuing a bachelor's degree must have completed thirty semester credit hours of study in an accredited college or university. Applicants must major in government, business administration, finance, management, or economics. Recipients who *do not* have a degree plan on file with the institution *must* provide an official degree plan by the end of the first academic semester for which the scholarship funds are received. The treasurer will not release subsequent scholarship funds until the degree plan is presented to the TMCA treasurer.

C. Graduate Degree Requirements

Applicants pursuing a graduate degree must have completed nine semester credit hours of graduate study in an accredited college university. Applicants must have completed the institutional requirements for admission to Graduate School for a Master of Arts degree or a Master of Science degree in government, public administration, urban government, business administration, management, finance, or economics. Persons admitted to a doctoral program or a law program will have similar requirements.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Applicants must meet all of the eligibility requirements. Scholarships will be awarded on the basis of an applicant's academic qualifications. Preference will be given to applicants who have not received a previous award. Preference will be given to 1. City secretaries or municipal clerks;

Martin Scholarship

will be announced at the TMCCP Graduate Institute Seminar to be held November 9-10 at South Padre Island.

The 2006 Scholarship Committee: Chair Sandra Watkins, TRMC, city secretary, Deer Park; Toni Chrestman, TRMC, city secretary, Slaton; Ashley Mitchell, TRMC, city secretary, Carrollton; Scarlet Swoboda, TRMC, city secretary, Victoria; Joyce Snay, TRMC, executive director, TMCCP/TMCA; and Board Liaison LeAnn Gallman, TRMC, city secretary, Muleshoe.

Should you have any questions or comments, please contact Chair Sandra Watkins, TRMC, at 281-478-7247 or swatkins@deerparktx.org.

Byrd Scholarship

2. Assistant or deputy city secretaries or municipal clerks; and 3. Other TMCA, Inc. members. Recipients of the Dorothy F. Byrd Scholarship are automatically ineligible to receive the Franklin Legal Publishing Scholarship, the Lila Fern Martin Scholarship, the Municipal Code Corporation Scholarship, or the Questys Scholarship in the same year.

POST-AWARD REQUIREMENTS

The scholarship recipient must complete the same TMCCP course or the same college or university semester credit hours for which the Dorothy F. Byrd Scholarship funds were reimbursed. Failure to fulfill these requirements will obligate the recipient to repay the Dorothy F. Byrd Scholarship Fund the amount awarded. Failure to repay TMCA, Inc. shall result in appropriate legal action.

The scholarship recipient pursuing TRMC certification shall maintain a C+ or better grade point average, pass the course examination, and attend the total 24 hours of the two seminars required to complete the course. The recipient studying for a bachelor's degree shall maintain a C+ or better grade point average. The recipient studying for a graduate degree shall maintain a B or better grade point average.

The maximum amount awarded is \$500.00 for one year.

[Download the Dorothy F. Byrd Scholarship Application](#)

Return deadline for a completed form is April 30.

Questys Solutions Funds TMCCP Scholarship

Questys Solutions has contributed \$500 to provide a scholarship fund for a Texas Municipal Clerk pursuing the Texas Registered Municipal Clerk's Certification (TRMC) or recertification. Charlene K. Webber, Vice President, Government Sales, Questys Solutions, spoke with TMCA President Patrice Fogarty, TRMC, city secretary, Missouri City, to make the initial arrangements. Ms. Webber or a representative from Questys will make the initial scholarship award at the TMCA, Inc., professional session held on Friday, October 27, at the Texas Municipal League Conference in Austin.

The Questys Solutions Scholarship eligibility information and application are posted on the TMCA website at www.unt.edu/municlerks or you may phone the TMCCP office and request the information be faxed to you, 940-565-3488. Deadline for applying for the scholarship is April 30, 2006. The completed application should be returned to TMCA Scholarship Committee Chair Sandra Watkins, TRMC city secretary, Deer Park, and the scholarship committee members will select the recipient. The scholarship funds may be used pay for TMCCP seminar registration fees, home study enrollment fees, and textbooks.

Questys Solutions recognizes the many valued services Texas municipal clerks provide to good local government and citizens. The purpose of this scholarship is to advance the education, professional development and job performance of TMCCP/TMCA, Inc., members.



**Thank you to the South Plains Chapter
for their recent generous donations to the
Dorothy F. Byrd Scholarship Fund and the
Lila Fern Martin Scholarship Fund!**

TMCCP Election Law Seminar



Top left: Senator Craig Estes, District 30, honored all Texas Municipal Clerks by serving as the keynote speaker during the TMCCP Election Law Seminar in Austin in January.

TMCCP is located on the UNT campus, and since UNT is part of Senator Estes' senatorial district, Senator Estes related his special pride and interest in TMCCP. He encouraged all Texas clerks to continue worthwhile educational goals through their pursuit of the Texas Registered Municipal Clerks Certification (TRMC).

Senator Estes said, "I have great respect for, and realize the importance of, the high-profile role a municipal clerk or city secretary plays in their respective communities. "Being a public servant is a high calling. I encourage your continued dedication, with an attitude of service, to your community and to our great state."

Middle left: TMCA, Inc., 2005, President Mary Lynne Stratta, TRMC, city secretary Bryan; Vice President Lila Fuller, TRMC city secretary, Nacogdoches; President Elect Lydia Ozuna, TRMC city clerk, Wichita Falls, Senator Craig Estes; and 2006 President Patrice Fogarty, TRMC, city secretary, Missouri City, following Senator's Estes' keynote address.



Lower left: Senator Craig Estes, District 30, receives appreciation for his keynote address from TMCA, Inc., President Patrice Fogarty, TRMC, city secretary, Missouri City, at the TMCCP Election Law Seminar held in Austin.

Below, right: Dale Barstow, Municipal Code Corporation, presents the MCC scholarship award to Sandra Watkins, TRMC, city secretary, Deer Park. MCC sponsors this scholarship to encourage municipal clerks to pursue continued educational and professional development through TMCCP.

Inset below: Michele Glaser, TRMC, city secretary, Seabrook, presents an appreciation award to Dale Barstow, Municipal Code Corporation, on behalf of the members of the Salt Grass Chapter of TMCA, Inc., for his many outstanding and beneficial services to municipal clerks throughout Texas.



TMCCP Recertifying Class of 2006



TMCCP recertifying class of 2006. Seated, from left to right: **Connie Hooks**, city secretary, College Station; **LeAnn Gallman**, city secretary, Muleshoe; **Norma Aguilar**, city secretary, Odessa; **Carol Loucks**, city secretary, Henrietta; **Joyce Whitehead**, city secretary (retired), Carthage; **Linda Zartler**, senior assistant to city manager, Boerne; **Pamela Russell**, city secretary, Copperas Cove; **Arcelia Felix**, city secretary, Mercedes; and **Jo Moore**, city secretary, Abilene. Standing, from left to right: **Susan Crim**, city secretary, Euless; **Mary Jo Collins**, city secretary/assistant city manager, Brownfield; **Leticia Vacek**, city clerk, San Antonio; **Jean Dwinell**, city secretary, Westlake; **Mary Lynne Stratta**, city secretary, Bryan; **Kelly D'Amato**, town secretary, Hickory Creek; **Martha Gillett**, city secretary, La Porte; **Toni Wilson**, city secretary, Sundown; **Marty Hendrix**, city secretary, Fort Worth; **Pamela K. Rowe**, city secretary, Plains; **Cynthia Singleton**, city secretary, Colleyville; **Joyce Snay**, director, TMCCP/TMCA; **Karen Lawson**, city secretary, Floydada; **Betty G. Brown**, local government/election specialist, Bickerstaff Heath Pollan & Caroom, LLP; **Lisa Elaine Simpson**, city secretary/treasurer, Seymour; **Sandy Hart**, city secretary, McKinney; **Martha Stanton**, city administrator, Groesbeck; **Diane Zucco**, assistant city secretary, Plano; **Brenda Glenn Craig**, city clerk, Kerrville; **Christina Laine**, city secretary, Marble Falls; **Nan Parker**, city secretary, Frisco; and **Amanda Elizondo**, city secretary, Weslaco. Not pictured: **Concha O. Aleman**, city secretary, Littlefield; **Debra Booth**, deputy city secretary, Garland; **Terri Johnson**, city manager/city secretary, Friona; **Lydia Lopez**, assistant city secretary, Waco; **Deloris McKenzie**, city secretary, Friendswood; **Nancy J. Meadows**, city secretary, Watauga; **Kathleen Wedwell**, assistant city secretary, Watauga; and **Beverly Weikum**, city secretary, Lake Dallas.

TMCCP Graduating Class of 2006



TMCCP graduating class of 2006. *Seated, from left to right:* Shannon Coovert, deputy city secretary, Webster; Stephanie Brim, assistant to the city manager, Huntsville; **Rosa Rios**, city secretary, Seagoville; **Kathy Wingo**, city secretary, Lucas; **Deana Watson**, city secretary, Post; **Cynthia Williams**, assistant city secretary, Post. *Standing, from left to right:* **Suzanne Finch**, city secretary, Hereford; **Debra Howe**, city secretary, Alvarado; **Terri Hanks**, assistant city secretary, Port Arthur; **Kimbra Caldwell**, city clerk, Groves; **Linda Taylor**, city secretary, Venus; **Vicky Varnau**, city secretary, Pilot Point; **Angela Winkle**, city secretary, Weatherford; and **Karen Thompson**, city secretary, Pflugerville. *Not pictured:* **Crista Bromley**, deputy city secretary/director of economic development, Burnet; and **Bonnie Gibbs**, assistant city secretary (retired), River Oaks.

IIMC Report

By Mary Lynne Stratta, TRMC, MMC
Region IV Director

The IIMC Annual Conference will be held May 14-18 in Anaheim, California. The conference is being held one week earlier than usual due to a change in location late in the planning process. This may present a conflict for many Texas clerks who will be holding elections on Saturday, May 13. The conference will utilize a different format than is customary for IIMC conferences. There will be more general sessions featuring highly recognized speakers. **The Region IV meeting will take place Monday morning, May 15.** Check your conference program for time and location.

IIMC Region IV's Constitution Review Committee recently issued a written report to all states, IIMC Regions, the IIMC Constitution Review Task Force, and the IIMC Board of Directors, calling for further dialogue on important components of the IIMC Constitution, after the Task Force closed its review process. Of importance to the Region IV Committee were the inclusion of an ethics clause in the Constitution, a provision to limit the authority of

the Executive Committee, and several other items of concern. Because of the courage and determination of the Region IV Committee, the Task Force reopened its process and considered the recommendations from Region IV as well as input from many other states that joined in the dialogue. Thanks to the Region IV Committee, the IIMC Constitutional amendments that will be presented to the membership in Anaheim will include an amendment to incorporate an ethics clause in the Constitution as well as a proposed amendment to limit the authority of the Executive Committee and implement reporting requirements for the Executive Committee. I want to encourage all IIMC members who will be attending the Anaheim Conference to take the time to carefully review the proposed constitutional Amendments and come prepared to vote on these very important issues. Texas municipal clerks who served on the Region IV Committee are Ken Bays, city administrator/city secretary, Goliad; Deloris McKenzie, TRMC, city secretary, Friendswood; Sherry Mashburn, TRMC, city secretary, Bee Cave; Pauline Small, TRMC, city secretary, Webster; and Marty Hendrix, TRMC, city secretary, Fort Worth. Marty also served as Region IV's representative on the IIMC Constitution Review Task Force. All of these clerks worked very hard and spent countless

hours reviewing the Constitution, researching other organizations' constitutions, teleconferencing and developing recommended amendments and reports. Marty did an outstanding job representing the interests of our members on the Task Force. The Region IV Committee was chaired by Frances Kersey, city clerk, Oklahoma City, and included representatives from all states in Region IV. Please join me in expressing our deepest appreciation to the members of this committee for their efforts and hard work in making IIMC a better organization in the future.

The 2007 IIMC Annual Conference is still scheduled to be held in New Orleans, although there may be a change in the host hotel. A final decision on the host hotel is expected in March.

My term on the IIMC Board of Directors will end Thursday, May 18, at the Annual Conference. I thank you for the opportunity and honor of representing you on the IIMC Board. I have announced my candidacy for IIMC Second Vice President in 2007, and will be counting on the support of all Texas clerks in my bid for this office.

If you would like additional information about IIMC, please feel free to contact me.

Mary Lynne Stratta, TRMC, MMC, city secretary, Bryan, has announced her candidacy for election to Second Vice President of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC).

Mary Lynne's campaign for this office will continue throughout the year of 2006 and the 2007 election will be held in New Orleans, LA, during the IIMC Annual conference.

Mary Lynne is an outstanding candidate for this office as she has a proven record of leadership and practical involvement with issues that directly benefit all clerks. She is a vigorous advocate for education and professional development for all clerks. Mrs. Stratta has actively served as IIMC's Regional IV Director and on many IIMC committees and special task forces. She served as the 2005 president of TMCA, Inc.; received her TRMC in 1996 (# 270); achieved recertification in 2001 and 2006; and was selected as Texas Municipal Clerk of the Year in 2002. Mary Lynne has also served the Capital Chapter in all the offices; served two terms as chapter president; and was selected as the chapter's Clerk of the Year four times. A mentor and a teacher for all clerks, Mary Lynne has served as a co-instructor for the outstanding TMCCP Step by Step Election Law session since 2000.

Anyone who would like to participate in the campaign activities during the year with Mary Lynne and the campaign committee is encourage to contact her, mstratta@bryantx.gov or this office for more information. *Win with Mary Lynne!*

TMCA Members Honored by IIMC

Toni Wilson, TRMC, city secretary, Sundown, has been named a member of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks Master Municipal Clerk Academy.

Sherry Mashburn, TRMC, city secretary, Bee Cave, has been received into the IIMC Master Municipal Clerk Academy.

Mary Kayser, TRMC, city secretary, Burleson, has qualified for Second Level Membership in the IIMC Master Municipal Clerk Academy.



Tiva Sanchez from a photograph taken during her 1972-73 TMCA presidency.

Necrology

Maria Natividad (Tiva) Sanchez, TRMC City Secretary (ret.), McAllen

Maria Natividad (Tiva) Sanchez, 81, of McAllen, former city clerk for 26 years, passed from this life into God's arms January 9, 2006, at the Bridges in Edinburg under the care of Odyssey Hospice after an extended illness. She graduated from Pan American College. She achieved the Texas Registered Municipal Clerks Certification (TRMC No. 13, in 1972) from TMCCP, and the Certified Municipal Clerk designation from the International Institute of Municipal of Clerks (IIMC).

Ms. Sanchez started working for the city of McAllen on December 8, 1946, and in 1962 she was appointed city clerk. Tiva was the city clerk until her retirement on November 30, 1987. She was very knowledgeable and could respond to problems quickly, thus enabling the city manager and elected officials more time to dedicate to the growing city. She was highly respected for her dedication, honesty and integrity. She served under nine mayors and four city managers.

Ms. Sanchez served as a director and on the executive committee of IIMC. She served as TMCA, Inc., president in 1972-73. In 1976, Tiva was selected as the Texas Municipal Clerk of the Year, and in 1992, the membership voted to make Ms. Sanchez a Lifetime Member of TMCA, Inc. In 1971-72, she served as president of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Chapter.

Tiva Sanchez was also an avid volunteer in her community. In 1982 she was the recipient of the Chamber of Commerce McAllen Woman of the Year award. In 1992 she was named Lifetime Member of the McAllen Chambers Presidents Circle for her outstanding service. Tiva was named a Lifetime member of the McAllen Driscoll Childrens Hospital Auxiliary in 2005. In addition to all awards and honors during her life, Tiva also received the 1977 "Yellow Rose of Texas" award from the state of Texas. She was a great asset to the City of McAllen and will be greatly missed by her loving family and her many friends and colleagues across Texas.

CHAPTER NEWS

CAPITAL CHAPTER

By Melissa Brunner

The Capital Chapter met on January 19 at the TMCCP Election Law Seminar. President Shirley Garvel called the meeting to order.

Members present were: Cynthia Archibeque, assistant to the city secretary, Bryan; Betty Brown, TRMC, Local Government Election Specialist, Bickerstaff Heath; Melissa Brunner, TRMC, city secretary, Flatonia; Jean Collins, city secretary, Gonzales; Shirley Garvel, city secretary, Elgin; Shirley Gentry, city clerk, Austin; Amy Kopriva, city secretary, Cameron; Sherry Mashburn, TRMC, city secretary, Bee Cave; Toni Milam, administrative assistant, Buda; Brenda Page, city secretary, Smithville; Melissa Perry, city secretary, City of Hutto; Rose Sickel, TRMC, assistant city secretary, Liberty Hill; Yvonne Spence, deputy city clerk, Austin; Frances Spinney, city secretary, Kempner; Mary Lynne Stratta, TRMC, city secretary, Bryan; Shelli Turner, city secretary, Rockdale; Teresa Valdez, TRMC, city secretary, Bastrop; Margie Villalpando, city secretary, Martindale; Carolyn Vinton, city secretary/city manager, Milano; and Dianna Zulauf, TRMC, village secretary, Salado.

The minutes of the September 21, 2005 meeting and the financial report were approved. President Garvel asked members to think of some items that the Capital Chapter might provide for the giveaway bags for the IIMC conference to be held in New Orleans in 2007. Shirley Gentry of Austin was asked to bring some suggestions to the next meeting. The Capital Chapter adopted the resolution in support of Mary Lynne Stratta's bid for the 2nd Vice President of IIMC in 2007. President Garvel announced that long time member Ruby White, TRMC, city secretary, Luling, had announced her retirement at the end of February. Ruby will be invited to the March meeting and presented with a plaque in recognition of her many years of service. President Garvel reported that the chapter was holding steady at 56 members. She congratulated those who had achieved their first certification with TMCCP and those who had recertified. President Garvel also announced that Betty Brown, Shelli Turner and Toni Milam will serve on the Municipal Clerk of the Year Committee for the Capital Chapter. The Capital Chapter also wants to congratulate Teresa Valdez, TRMC, city secretary, Bastrop, for being awarded the Franklin Legal Scholarship through TMCCP.

CENTRAL TEXAS CHAPTER

By Lydia Lopez, TRMC

The Central Texas Chapter held their meeting on October 19. The City of McGregor hosted the meeting. A wonderful lunch was served by Teresa Sneed, owner of Catering on Main.

Chapter members present included: President Connie Foreman, city secretary, Lacy Lakeview; Vice President Carolyn Martin, TRMC, city secretary, Mexia; Secretary Lydia Lopez, TRMC, assistant city secretary, Waco; Treasurer Donna Hawkins, city secretary, Beverly Hills; Historian Yrene Morgan, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Mexia; Benevolence Officer Audie Good, TRMC, assistant city secretary, Bellmead; Sheryl Christian, city secretary, Crawford; Becky Frels, TRMC, city secretary, Hewitt; Lee Garcia, finance director, Hewitt; Marie Garland, TRMC, city secretary, Meridian; Betty L. Harrell, city secretary, Hillsboro; Monica Hendrix, city secretary, Lorena; Dorothy Jackson, city secretary, Hubbard; Patti Paschal, city secretary, McGregor; Sandie Polk, Waco; Laura Puma, Teague; Kendra Pursche, Robinson; Genell Stuteville, city secretary, Gustine; and Linda Vranich, city secretary, Robinson.

Patti Paschall introduced Mayor Jimmy Hering, City of McGregor, who was the guest speaker. Mayor Hering spoke

about his appreciation for the role city secretaries play as first-line communicators and problem solvers.

President Foreman recognized Marie Garland, TRMC, city administrator/secretary, Meridian, long time chapter member, who will be leaving her employment with the city to begin a new career with a local bank in Meridian. Chapter members extended their best wishes to Marie. The following new attendees were also recognized: Laura Puma, Teague; Sheryl Christian, Crawford; and Genell Stuteville, Gustine. A \$200 scholarship from the chapter was awarded to Lydia Lopez, Waco.

Chapter Members Carolyn Martin, Mexia; Yrene Morgan, Mexia; and Patricia Ervin, Waco, represented us well with their attendance to the IIMC Region IV Annual Clerks Meeting on December 8-10, 2005, in Bosier City, Louisiana.

Congratulations to chapter members Martha Stanton, TRMC, city administrator, Groesbeck, and Lydia Lopez, TRMC, assistant city secretary, Waco, who completed their coursework and received their certificates of recertification on January 19.

CHAPTER NEWS

The ceremonial installation of new officers was held at the February 8 meeting held in the City of Woodway.

The Central Texas Chapter/Capital Chapter is currently making plans for the Annual Joint Salado Seminar to be held July 28-29, 2006. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!** You will not want to miss this networking/educational opportunity.

COASTAL BEND CHAPTER

By Irma Parker

The Coastal Bend Chapter met February 16 at Estella's Mexican Restaurant, Ganado. Members elected new officers and presented the annual committee reports. The increased attendance and positive direction this chapter is experiencing is very promising. We hope to continue our forward momentum. Ganado City Secretary Larry Thompson and his staff hosted the quarterly meeting.

For further information concerning our chapter or meeting dates, contact any of our members, or Chapter President Kimberly Drysdale, city secretary/human resource director,

Ingleside, 361-776-2517, or email inglesidecs@cableone.net; Vice President Patsy Gibson, city secretary, Palacios, 361-972-3605 or email p.gibson@starband.net; or Irma Parker, city secretary, Rockport, 361-729-2213 or mail citysec@cityofrockport.com.

LONE STAR CHAPTER

By Sandy Hart, TRMC

The Lone Star Chapter members have been very busy over the last months. We held a silent auction at the TMCCP Election Law Seminar. The chapter raised over \$900 toward our Scholarship Fund. We have many to thank for the success of the auction: Shelley George, Eddie Sturgal, Kathy Wingo, Dorothy Brooks, Nan Parker, and the Cities of Paris, Allen, Rockwall, Denison, Farmersville, McKinney, Greenville, Wylie, Ladonia and Addison for their contributions, as well as all the bidders who helped make our first auction a great success.

Congratulations to our two new Texas Registered Municipal Clerks: Kathy Wingo, Lucas, and Vicky Varnau, Pilot Point. We also had three clerks recertify in Austin: Nan Parker, Frisco;

Diane Zucco, Plano; and Sandy Hart, McKinney. We are also very proud of our members who passed their TRMC course examinations in Austin: Eddie Sturgal, Lowry Crossing; Dorothy Brooks, Rockwall; Sara Thetford, Prosper; Shanae Jennings, Prosper; and Julie Lollar, Denison.

On November 10, 2005, the City of Denison hosted our meeting with a wonderful and informative presentation

by Denison City Attorney Tom Akins. On December 8, 2005, despite the icy weather conditions, we held our meeting in the City of Greenville. The guest speaker was Greenville City Manager Karen Daly, who spoke on "The Top 10 Reasons Why it is Better to be a City Secretary than a City Manager." The topic was very enjoyable and we were enlightened on the demands of the city manager's job. The following members were in attendance: Barbara Alvarado,



The Lone Star Chapter at their November meeting.

CHAPTER NEWS

city secretary, Howe; Beverly Covington, TRMC, deputy city secretary, McKinney; Carole Ehrlich, TRMC, city secretary, Wylie; Vickie Faulkner, TRMC, city secretary, Celina; Shelley George, TRMC, city secretary, Allen; Sandy Hart, TRMC, city secretary, McKinney; Shanae Jennings, town secretary, Prosper; Nina Jones, city clerk, Denison; Julie Lollar, deputy city secretary, Denison; Aimee Nemer, TRMC, city secretary, Murphy; Dana Nixon, TRMC, permit coordinator, Melissa; Nan Parker, TRMC, city secretary, Frisco; Cathy Pugh, city secretary, Tom Bean; Eddie Sturgal, city secretary, Lowry Crossing; Sara Thetford, administrative assistant, Prosper; Vicky Varnau, TRMC, city secretary, Pilot Point; Kathy Wilkerson, deputy city secretary, Rowlett; Kathy Wingo, TRMC, city secretary, Lucas; and Beth Woodson, city secretary, Savoy.

The next meetings of the Lone Star Chapter will be held on February 2 in Rockwall, March 2, and April 6. Please contact Aimee Nemer at anemer@murphytx.org to get on the mailing list to receive information on upcoming meetings. At the April 6 meeting, the first annual Lone Star Municipal Clerk's Scholarship will be awarded. We are looking forward to helping the clerks in our chapter pursue their Texas Registered Municipal Clerk's Certification.

The officers and members of the chapter are looking forward to many opportunities to educate, inform, network, and enlighten our area clerks. We welcome anyone who would like to be a part of our chapter or attend any of our meetings.

LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY CHAPTER

By Perla Zamora

The Lower Rio Grande Valley City Clerks Chapter met January 26 at Sausas Restaurant in Harlingen. Twenty seven members were present. Teresa Navarro, Hidalgo County Elections Administrator, and Roger Ortiz, Cameron County Elections Administra-

tor, were the special guest speakers. They gave presentations on the DRE voting machines that will be utilized in both counties. Mr. Ortiz spoke about the AutoMARK and highlighted the features of the voting system. Ms. Navarro spoke about the iVotronic and highlighted the voting process with the touchscreen system. She reviewed the fees for leasing the voting units from Hidalgo County. Members participated in a question and answer session which was followed by a demonstration of the machines.

Overall, both election administrators provided the group with pertinent information to ensure the chapter members that the systems are simple, user friendly and most importantly, security features are in place to uphold the integrity of the elections.

NORTH TEXAS MUNICIPAL CLERKS CHAPTER by Jeanne Fralicks, TRMC

The North Texas Municipal Clerks Association Chapter held its annual Christmas luncheon at the world famous Southfork Ranch in Parker, Texas. We were delighted to be joined by retirees Patti Hicks, TRMC, retired city secretary, The Colony, Ina Garber, TRMC, retired city secretary, Richardson, and Judy Morrison, TRMC, retired city secretary, Allen. Following a wonderful holiday meal, we enjoyed a variety of Christmas carols performed by the Wylie Jazz Choir and Patti Hicks. Special thanks are extended to our Holiday Celebration Committee: Chair Carole Ehrlich, TRMC, city secretary, Wylie; Rosa Stovall, city secretary, Lavon; and Aimee Nemer, TRMC, city secretary, Murphy.



Patti Hicks, TRMC, city secretary (ret.), The Colony, sang at the NTMCA annual Christmas luncheon.

CHAPTER NEWS

In February, NTMCA conducted its all-day professional seminar. The informative sessions included: “Effective Council Relationships” by Ron Holifield, executive director, North Texas Municipal Alliance; “Document Management and Disaster Preparedness” by Russell Haddock, Municipal Code; “Disasters, Are We Ever Really Prepared?” by Rose Ann Jones, TRMC, city secretary, Beaumont; and “Dress for Success” by Shanda, from the “Shopping with Shanda” radio show.

The North Texas Chapter will also meet on the following dates: March 8 (Embassy Suites Dallas Park Central); April 12 (Hilton Garden Inn Fort Worth North); June 14 (Radisson DFW South); July 12 (Embassy Suites Dallas Park Central); September 13 (Hilton Garden Inn Fort Worth North); October 11 (Radisson DFW South); November 8 (Embassy Suites Dallas Park Central); and December 13 (location to be determined).

For more information about our chapter or upcoming meetings, please contact Jeanne Fralicks, TRMC, city secretary, Duncanville, 972-780-5004.

PANHANDLE CHAPTER

By Suzanne Finch, TRMC

President Janice Henson, TRMC, city secretary, Perryton, presided at the December meeting held at the Amarillo Club. President Henson thanked the outgoing officers for their dedication and commitment to the Panhandle Chapter and presented them with a gift of appreciation. She installed the following new officers: President Connie McKiernan; city secretary, Panhandle; Vice President Phyllis Jeffers, city secretary, Pampa; Secretary and Records Retention Officer Suzanne Finch, city secretary, Hereford; and Treasurer Mark Washburn, city secretary, Gruver. Past-president Henson will serve as historian for the chapter.



The Panhandle Chapter at their December meeting.

CHAPTER NEWS

Members who attended were: Frances Childers, city secretary, Dalhart; Suzanne Finch, city secretary, Hereford; Cheryl Gibson-Salgado, TRMC, city secretary, Spearman; Janie Guerra, city secretary, Cactus; Janice Henson, TRMC, city secretary, Perryton; Phyllis Jeffers, city secretary, Pampa; Terri Johnson, TRMC, city manager/city secretary, Friona; Mary Sue Lyles, city secretary, Groom; Connie McKiernan, city secretary, Panhandle; Carolee Nance, city secretary, Fritch; Nelwyn Ward, city secretary, Memphis; and Mark Washburn, city secretary, Gruver;

The chapter will meet April 20 at 11:30 a.m. at the Amarillo Club, Amarillo, Texas.



At the Panhandle Chapter's December meeting, President Janice Henson installed the following new officers: President Connie McKiernan; city secretary, Panhandle; Vice President Phyllis Jeffers, city secretary, Pampa; Secretary and Records Retention Officer Suzanne Finch, city secretary, Hereford; and Treasurer Mark Washburn, city secretary, Gruver. Past-president Janice Henson will serve as historian for the chapter.



The Pineywoods Chapter at their January meeting.

PINEYWOODS CHAPTER

By Terre Noble, TRMC

The Pineywoods Chapter held their quarterly meeting on January 12 at Clear Springs Restaurant in Nacogdoches. The meeting was hosted by Lila Fuller, TRMC, city secretary, Nacogdoches. Members present were: President Terre Noble, TRMC, city secretary, Center; Vice President Carrie Edwards, city secretary, Colmesneil; Secretary/Treasurer Tina Cavazos, city secretary, Diboll; Stacy Corley, deputy city secretary, Nacogdoches; Teresa Crawford, city secretary, Timpson; Lila Fuller, TRMC, city secretary, Nacogdoches; Irene Hicks, city secretary, Livingston; Ashley Judd, city secretary, Hudson; and Mitzi Thompson, city secretary, Crockett.

CHAPTER NEWS

SOUTH PLAINS CHAPTER

By Toni Chrestman, TRMC

The South Plains Chapter met on December 21, 2005, at the Firewater Cafe, Lubbock. The meeting was hosted by Sharon Trumble, city secretary, New Deal. Vice President Toni Wilson, TRMC, city secretary, Sundown, welcomed members and guests.

Sharon Trumble introduced Claudia McQueen, stock pile co-coordinator for Public Health Region I with the Texas Department of Public Health Preparedness Program. Ms. McQueen gave a very informative program on public health preparedness and organization for our Region to be ready for natural and terrorist emergencies.

Toni Chrestman, TRMC, city secretary, Slaton, reported that 36 participants attended the Chapter's Parliamentary Procedure Seminar on October 14, 2005. We had very good feedback for the seminar.

Chapter members approved donations of \$250.00 to the Lila Fern Martin Scholarship and \$250.00 to the Dorothy F. Byrd Scholarship fund.

Tommy Combs, deputy city secretary, Lubbock, agreed to chair the in-house educational seminar for next year. Anyone wishing to serve on this committee should contact Tommy.

Pam Rowe, TRMC, city secretary, Plains, agreed to chair the committee to help at the TMCCP seminar to be held in Lubbock, June 8-9. Other members of the committee are: Karen Lawson, TRMC, city secretary, Floydada; Mary Jo Collins, TRMC, city secretary, Brownfield; Chris Wade, TRMC, city secretary, Levelland; Sharon Trumble, city secretary, New Deal; Belinda Terrell, city secretary, Whiteface; and Toni Chrestman, TRMC, city secretary, Slaton.

Members and guests attending were: Toni Chrestman, TRMC, city secretary, Slaton; Mary Jo Collins, TRMC, city secretary, Brownfield; Tommy Combs, deputy city secretary, Lubbock; LeAnn Gallman, TRMC, city secretary, Muleshoe; Margot Hardin, city secretary, Crosbyton; Linda Hart, Lubbock; Maria Hatchett, TRMC, city secretary, Lamesa; Dana and Jackson Heflin, guests; Sharon Kerby, Slaton; Karen Lawson, TRMC, city secretary, Floydada; Sylvia Martinez, TRMC, billing clerk, Plains; Pam Rowe, TRMC, city secretary, Plains; Brenda Shaw, TRMC, city secretary, Morton; Belinda Terrell, city secretary, Whiteface; Cynthia Thigpen, city secretary, Farwell; Sharon Trumble, city secretary, New Deal; Chris Wade, TRMC, city secretary, Levelland; Wilma Williams, city secretary, Denver City; and Toni Wilson, TRMC, City of Sundown.

The next meeting was set for March 15. We will contact Plainview to serve as host city.



Leticia Vacek, TRMC, city clerk, San Antonio, will be honored at the 10th Annual "Salute to Women in Action" Awards Gala sponsored by LaPrensa Newspaper in San Antonio Friday March 31. The purpose of the LaPrensa foundation is to invest in San Antonio with scholarship awards particular to the youth and adults who have the desire and motivation to pursue their dreams of a higher education. The foundation has awarded over a 1.3 million dollars to assist in turning dreams into realities for many local students.

Leticia received her Texas Registered Municipal Clerks Certification, number 207, in 1991 and she achieved the requirements for recertification in 1996, 2001, and 2006. She was accepted into IIMC's Master Municipal Clerk's Academy in 2004. She holds an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Public Service Administration from South Texas Community College in McAllen.

TMCA, INC., CHAPTERS



ALAMO CHAPTER
 Patty Cox, Vice President
 8001 Shin Oak Dr, Live Oak, TX 78233
 210-653-9140 x213; 210-653-2766 Fax
nalthouse@ci.schertz.tx.us



COASTAL BEND CHAPTER
 Kimberly Drysdale, President
 PO Drawer 400, Ingleside, TX 78362-0400
 361-776-2517; 361-775-0109 Fax
inglesidecs@cablone.net



NORTH TEXAS MUNICIPAL CLERKS ASSOC. CHAPTER
 Jeanne Fralicks, TRMC, President
 PO Box 380280, Duncanville, TX 75138
 972-780-5004; 972-780-5077 Fax
jfralicks@ci.duncanville.tx.us



RED RIVER CHAPTER
 Patricia "Trish" Holley, TRMC, President
 501 Sheppard Rd, Burkburnett, TX 76354
 940-569-2263; 940-569-4192 Fax
tholley@burkburnett.org



BLUEBONNET CHAPTER
 Rhonda Williams, TRMC, President
 213 E Blackjack St, Dublin, TX 76446-2303
 254-445-3331; 254-445-3727 Fax
dublintx@earthlink.net



HILL COUNTRY CHAPTER
 K. Vivian Saiz, President
 730 Main St, Junction, TX 76849
 915-446-2622; 915-446-3003 Fax
vsaliz@cityofjunction.com



NORTHEAST TEXAS CHAPTER
 Cassandra Brager, President
 PO Box 2039, Tyler, TX 75710-2039
 903-531-1106; 903-531-1127 Fax
cityclerk@tylertexas.com



SALT GRASS CHAPTER
 Jenny Key, TRMC, President
 PO Box 839, Morgan's Point, TX 77572
 281-471-2171; 281-471-7473 Fax
citysecretary@morganspoint-tx.com



CAPITAL CHAPTER
 Shirley Garvel, President
 PO Box 591, Elgin, TX 78621-0591
 512-281-5724; 512-285-5962 Fax
garvel@totalaccess.net



LONE STAR CHAPTER
 Sandy Hart, TRMC, President
 PO Box 517, McKinney, TX 75070-0517
 972-547-7505; 972-547-2607 Fax
shart@mcKinneytexas.org



PANHANDLE CHAPTER
 Connie McKiernan, TRMC, President
 PO Box 129, Panhandle, TX 79068
 806-537-3517; 806-537-5049 Fax
cmkpanhandle@cablone.net



SOUTH PLAINS CHAPTER
 Gayla Cowan, President
 PO Box 560, Amherst, TX 79312-0560
 806-246-3421; 806-246-3575 Fax



CENTRAL TEXAS CHAPTER
 Connie Foreman, President
 PO Box 154549, Waco, TX 76715
 254-799-2458; 254-799-6265 Fax
connie_foreman@lacy-lakeview.org



LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY CHAPTER
 Mary Munoz, President
 PO Box B, Pharr, TX 78577-1202
 956-702-5335 x112; 956-702-5313 Fax
mmunoz@cityofpharr.com



PINEYWOODS CHAPTER
 Terre Noble, TRMC, President
 PO Box 1744, Center, TX 75935-1744
 936-598-2941; 936-598-2615 Fax
tnoble@ci.center.tx.us



WEST TEXAS CHAPTER
 Laura Barragan, TRMC, President
 PO Box 517, Van Horn, TX 79855-0517
 432-283-2050; 432-283-2839 Fax
tvh-lb@telstar1.com