

TMCA NEWS



President's Message

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TMCA President
Shelley George, TRMC
City Secretary, Allen

As this new year is well underway, we are all faced with a new way of operating and serving our communities while also limiting social interactions. Many of you have already experienced local disasters that have challenged you and your communities. Today we are united in the same challenge, a new battle against an invisible danger to our citizens.

On behalf of the Executive Board and TMCA staff, I want you to know you are not alone in this battle. While we don't know how long this public health emergency will impact our state and communities, please know we are monitoring the situation and should TMCA/TMCCP need to make operational changes to serve our members and certified candidates, we are prepared to do so.

As the way we serve our community and interact with our co-workers change, you continue to serve without fail meeting each new trial with a spirit that inspires me. You continue to prove the value of the role you play as City Secretary as you give guidance and share your knowledge with your city leadership in making tough decisions that

impact the lives of residents, businesses, and city workers. Please continue to share what your communities are doing to keep your citizens safe and meet their needs, and to also ask questions of others on the **TMCA's TexasMunicipalClerks Yahoo Group**.

A new normal is challenging how we provide services. It is not only stressful for our citizens but for our families and friends, as well as ourselves. So it is important to take care of you, too. Stay connected with your family, friends, coworkers, and peers.

While we continue to make plans on ways to better serve you, please let us know of your ideas and needs by contacting me directly at sgeorge@cityofallen.org or reach out to any **Executive Board member**.

Our communities are strong because of the service you provide.

Thank you for what you do!

Shelley George, TRMC
2020 TMCA, Inc., President
sgeorge@cityofallen.org

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Scholarship Opportunities

By Scholarship Committee Chair **Tanya Smith, TRMC**
City Secretary, College Station

Learn more about scholarships and apply today:

- *About the Scholarships, page 6*
- *General Requirements, page 7*
- *Selection Criteria, page 7*
- *Scholarship Administration, page 8*



Tanya Smith, TRMC

*2020 TMCA
 Scholarship Committee:*

*Chair Tanya Smith
 City Secretary, College Station*

*Frances Aguilar
 City Secretary, Angleton*

*René Dowl
 City Secretary, Garland*

*Sharon McFadden
 City Sec./Fin. Director, Graham*

*Carrie Land
 City Secretary, Anna*

The Texas Municipal Clerks Association, Inc., and the Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program are dedicated to providing an educational and professional development program for beginner and experienced municipal clerks. Providing for continuing education and leadership is the fundamental objective of the Association. The goal is to provide an opportunity for pursuing professional development through training and professional interaction.

The TMCA scholarship program provides financial assistance to members who are enrolled in the Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program, or in the Recertification Program. In addition, there are scholarships available for TMCA members who are pursuing a bachelor's or graduate degree in a program of study that directly enhances the individual's professional job performance.

On behalf of TMCA and the 2020 Scholarship Committee, I encourage all eligible municipal clerks to let TMCA help you achieve your professional and educational goals by applying for one of the many scholarships available.

Scholarship applications may be mailed or emailed to Tanya Smith no later than **June 15, 2020**, to be considered for a scholarship. Once the TMCA Scholarship Committee has reviewed and considered all applications, scholarship recipients will be notified that they have been awarded a scholarship. Scholarships will be formally presented at the annual TMCA Awards Banquet at the Omni Corpus Christi Hotel on October 29, 2020. This event is held during the TMCCP Graduate Institute Seminar.



2021 SCHOLARSHIPS

About the Scholarships • General Requirements • Selection Criteria • Scholarship Administration

About the Scholarships

TMCA Major Scholarship Awards

Depending on the applicant's intended use of the scholarship—TMCCP or college/university study—the applicant may be granted a scholarship from one of the following sources, chosen by the Scholarship Committee. To apply for a TMCA Major Scholarship Award, download and submit our [application form](#).

Dorothy F. Byrd Scholarship

Maximum amount awarded: \$500

Intended use: pursuit of either the Texas Registered Municipal Clerk Certification/Recertification (TRMC) or eligible college/university study

History: The Dorothy F. Byrd Scholarship was established in 1993 by the members of the Texas Municipal Clerks Association, Inc., to honor Dorothy Byrd, former Executive Director of Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program and Texas Municipal Clerks Association, Inc.

Lila Fern Martin Scholarship

Maximum amount awarded: \$1,000

Intended use: eligible college/university study

History: The Lila Fern Martin Scholarship honors the 1958-1959 president of the Association of City Clerks and Secretaries of Texas—the predecessor organization of TMCA.

Dr. Joyce Snay Scholarship

Maximum amount awarded: \$500

Intended use: pursuit of the Texas Registered Municipal Clerk Certification/Recertification (TRMC)

History: Established in 2008, this scholarship honors former TMCCP/TMCA Education Director Dr. Joyce Snay.

Susan Rocha Scholarship

Maximum amount awarded: \$500

Intended use: pursuit of the Texas Registered Municipal Clerk Certification/Recertification (TRMC), including travel to and from approved seminars.

History: Established in 2011 to honor Susan Rocha's memory and her commitment to education and enthusiasm for the municipal field. Ms. Rocha was a partner with Denton, Navarro, Rocha and Bernal, P.C., and a frequent speaker for the TMCCP Legislative Update Seminar. The scholarship was established by friend and colleague, Alan Bojorquez, Bojorquez Law Firm, P.C., to be administered by TMCA, Inc.

Vendor Scholarships

Maximum amount awarded: \$500

Intended use: pursuit of the Texas Registered Municipal Clerk Certification (TRMC) or Recertification, including travel to and from approved seminars.

History: Various donors contribute funds toward Texas Municipal Clerks scholarships in recognition of the mission of TMCA and TMCCP, which states, "The Texas Municipal Clerks Association and the Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program are dedicated to providing an educational and professional development program for novice and experienced municipal clerks." Past vendor donors have included: Agent IT; American Legal Publishing; Franklin Legal Publishing, Inc.; Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP; Municipal Code Corporation; and the Underwood Law Firm.

MCCi Records Management Scholarship

This scholarship was developed to recognize city secretaries/municipal clerks who have established outstanding systems for records management or who have improved existing systems. To apply for an MCCi Records Management Scholarship, download and submit our [application form](#).

Maximum amount awarded: \$500.00 in each of three categories

Intended use: Scholarship award funds are to be used for continued or advanced education in a TMCCP program or a TMCA-approved records management program (e.g., ARMA, Texas State Library, Council of Governments), including travel to and from eligible seminars.

History: The MCCi Records Management Scholarship was developed in 2006 for the purpose of recognizing city secretaries/municipal clerks who have established outstanding systems for records management or who have improved existing systems.

Sandra Watkins TMCCP Election Law Seminar Scholarship

This scholarship enables applicants from small cities to attend the invaluable TMCCP Election Law Seminar. Awardee shall be a current TMCA member from a small city/town with a population fewer than 5,000. Enrollment in the Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program is not required. Download and submit the [application form](#).

Maximum amount awarded: \$500.00 awarded annually

Intended use: Scholarship award funds are to be used for registration fees and travel expenses for a TMCCP Election Law Seminar (held within two years of award).

History: Longtime TMCA member, mentor, instructor, and former Executive Board member Sandra Watkins bestowed the endowment for this scholarship in 2017. She says, "Not every city can provide support to their municipal clerk because of financial issues. I feel every municipal clerk should have the opportunity to attend seminars that would benefit them in their endeavor to be their best for their city, especially the TMCCP Election Law Seminar because that is one process every municipality conducts."

2021 SCHOLARSHIPS

[About the Scholarships](#) • [General Requirements](#) • [Selection Criteria](#) • [Scholarship Administration](#)

General Requirements

Eligible applicants shall be current paid members of TMCA and shall have been paid members of TMCA for two consecutive years previous to application for the scholarship. Applicants must be actively pursuing certification or recertification in the Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program. Applicants must have already earned the TRMC to be eligible to use the funds for a college degree.

(To learn about requirements for those pursuing a bachelor degree or graduate degree, **visit our website.**)

Selection Criteria

1. Applicants must meet all of the eligibility requirements.
2. Scholarships will be awarded based on a combination of the applicant's years of municipal service, membership in TMCA, Inc., and progress in the Texas Municipal Clerks Certification/Recertification Program. For those pursuing a college or university degree, points are awarded based on the number of college hours completed.
3. Preference will be given to applicants who have not received a previous award within the last three years.
4. With the exception of the MCCi Records Management Scholarship, preference will be given to 1) city secretaries or municipal clerks; 2) assistant or deputy city secretaries or municipal clerks; and 3) other TMCA, Inc., members. Applicants *must be* city secretaries/municipal clerks to be eligible for the MCCi Records Management Scholarship.
5. Members of the current scholarship committee are not eligible to apply for a TMCA Major Scholarship or MCCi Records Management Scholarship.

*Download the TMCA
Major Scholarship Award
application*

*Download the MCCi Records
Management Scholarship
application*

2021 SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship Administration

(For full information about scholarship administration, visit our [website](#).)

The TMCA treasurer disburses scholarship funds to the recipient(s) on a cost-reimbursement basis not to exceed the amount(s) awarded. The recipient(s) shall be reimbursed for qualifying expenses incurred between January 1 and December 31 of the year following the award of scholarship. The recipient must submit original, official receipt(s) issued by TMCCP, the college, or the university to receive payment for reimbursable expenses. Reimbursable expenses depend upon the scholarship awarded. Each scholarship and eligible expenses are listed at right.

About the Scholarships • General Requirements • Selection Criteria • [Scholarship Administration](#)

Dorothy Byrd Scholarship

(for TMCCP certification/recertification or college)

Reimbursable expenses are exclusive to TMCCP expenses, including: enrollment fees, textbooks, exam fees, and TMCCP seminar registration fees and travel expenses; or college expenses, including: 1) credit-hour tuition fees (extension and correspondence courses listed in the institutional catalog that apply to the recipient(s) degree plan are acceptable); 2) building use fees; 3) student service fees; 4) identification card fees; 5) publications fees; 6) union building fees; 7) property damage fees; 8) science laboratory fees; and 9) academic department fees.

Lila Fern Martin Scholarship

(for college use only)

Reimbursable expenses are exclusive to: 1) credit-hour tuition fees (extension and correspondence courses listed in the institutional catalog that apply to the recipient(s) degree plan are acceptable); 2) building use fees; 3) student service fees; 4) identification card fees; 5) publications fees; 6) union building fees; 7) property damage fees; 8) science laboratory fees; and 9) academic department fees.

Susan Rocha Scholarship

(for TMCCP certification/recertification, incl. travel)

Reimbursable expenses are exclusive to: enrollment fees, textbooks, exam fees, TMCCP seminar registration fees and travel expenses.

Dr. Joyce Snay Scholarship

(for TMCCP certification/recertification, incl. travel)

Reimbursable expenses are exclusive to: enrollment fees, textbooks, exam fees, TMCCP seminar registration fees and travel expenses.

Vendor Scholarships (Including the MCCi Records Management Scholarship)

(see [page 3](#) for intended use)

Reimbursable expenses are exclusive to: enrollment fees, textbooks, exam fees, TMCCP seminar registration fees and travel expenses. ★

For full information about the scholarships, including post-award requirements, please [visit our website](#).

Apply to Serve as a Trustee On The 2021 TMCA Executive Board

By Nominating Committee Chair **Lydia Lopez, TRMC**
City Secretary, Hewitt



Lydia Lopez, TRMC

“Ask not what your country can do for you... ask what you can do for your country.”
 —President John F. Kennedy

These inspirational words were the first that came to my mind in preparation of this article. Now I’m going to make them relative to the purpose of this article. *Ask not what your Association can do for you, but what you can do for your Association.* Service to our Association is imperative to its success. Our Association is great because of the many volunteers that we have. As a leader, you may have the desire to serve on the TMCA Executive Board. If so you will want to read on.

What does the board do? The TMCA Executive Board

- is the governing body of the TMCA and oversees the activities of the organization;
- provides oversight of the educational and professional development program; (TMCCP) and, in collaboration with staff, ensures information and materials presented are current and applicable to the needs of the profession;
- plans for the future of TMCA by recognizing needs of the profession and working together to meet those needs; and
- is intentional about receiving input from the full membership of TMCA.

If you are interested in applying to serve as a trustee, complete and submit the **2021 Nomination Application form** along with the letter of recommendation by **May 1, 2020**, and send to: TMCA Nominating Committee Chair Lydia Lopez, TRMC, City Secretary, City of Hewitt, 200 Patriot Court, Hewitt, Texas 76643, or citysecretary@cityofhewitt.com.



2020 TMCA Executive Board

Who is eligible to apply? There are a few things to consider before applying to serve on the TMCA Executive Board:

- **Certification**—Applicant must be a Texas Registered Municipal Clerk (TRMC).
- **Municipal clerk**—An applicant must be a practicing city secretary or municipal clerk for at least three years and a TMCA member in good standing for at least three years.
- **Committee service**—An applicant must have a minimum of two years of TMCA committee service.
- **The support of your city**—The applicant must indicate city support by having the mayor or city manager sign the application form.
- **Letter of recommendation**—The applicant must provide a letter of recommendation from an active or retired municipal clerk or current TMCA chapter president.
- **Time and travel commitment**—Board members must commit to the travel and financial cost that may be associated with attendance of meetings.
- **One-year term commitment**—The term for a trustee is one year with option to reapply the following year.
- **Meetings**—The Board meets four times a year. The dates are scheduled months in advance so you can plan accordingly.
- **Attendance**—Attendance is crucial. Missing more than one meeting a year results in automatic resignation.



TMCCP 2020 Election Law Seminar

January 30-31, 2020, Frisco

The 2020 TMCCP Election Law Seminar was a great success! Over 500 were in attendance. We had over 30 instructors, including longtime city secretaries and presenters from the Texas Office of the Secretary of State, Texas Municipal League, and Texas Ethics Division. We are also so grateful to the support of our volunteer session conveners and attendance scanners. Thank you to everyone who made this seminar possible, and such a great experience!

At top left: TMCA President Shelley George welcomes attendees to the TMCCP Election Law Seminar.

At lower right: Speakers Bill Longley, TML Legislative Counsel, and Scott Houston, TML Deputy Executive Director & General Counsel, open the seminar with the general session on TML Legislative Update.

Photo by Paul Traves



Photo by Krystal Kaye Images



Photo by Krystal Kaye Images



Photo by Krystal Kaye Images



At the TMCCP Election Law Seminar, from left to right: TMCA Northeast Texas Chapter (photo courtesy chapter). Thank you to generous hosts the TMCA Lone Star Chapter, who brought popcorn to all seminar attendees. Thank you to the Lone Star Chapter for bringing pink ribbons in support of TMCA/TMCCP Education Director Dr. Amy Holt, TRMC (photos courtesy chapter).



Hill Country Chapter members (photo courtesy chapter). Central Texas Chapter members (photo by Michelle Fogle). Keynote speaker Caroline Webster during the TMCCP Graduation Ceremony Luncheon (photo by Paul Traves). From the Capital Chapter: "Study hard, clerk hard!"



At the seminar; South Plains Chapter members (photo courtesy chapter); Salt Grass Chapter members (photo by Tracy Garcia); Capital Chapter members (photo courtesy chapter).

Photo by Paul Traves



TMCCP Graduating Class of 2020

*Congratulations to graduates
who have earned their Texas Registered Municipal Clerk Certification!*

Photograph by Paul Traves, f16 Photography

The Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program (TMCCP) is a professional development program with college/university-level courses. It is the only university-level professional education program for city clerks and city secretaries in Texas and is the third oldest of 39 such programs in the country.

The Certification Program seeks to establish certain qualifications for fulfilling the office of municipal clerk in order to retain the traditional and rightful standing as an officer of the municipality. Instruction and study includes current insight into such areas as public relations, ethics, municipal budgets, interpersonal communications, and public management. The program provides the municipal clerk with the knowledge and methods necessary to execute the duties of his/her office, as well as develops familiarity with the theory and practices of local government.

Pursuit of the Texas Registered Municipal Clerk Certification (TRMC) helps municipal clerks grow both personally and professionally. Earning the TRMC certification increases the proficiency of the public servant and enhances personal awareness, flexibility, knowledge, and innovative decision-making, resulting in new professionalism.

Successful completion of TMCCP requires approximately 200 hours of individual home study, examinations over each of the four courses, and attendance at eight two-day seminars. Recertification requires an additional 80 hours of professional development course work every five years.

- | | |
|--|--|
| Brittany Andrews
<i>Justin</i> | Patsy Patten
<i>Keene</i> |
| Rachel Austin
<i>Jonestown</i> | Courtney Paz
<i>Lubbock</i> |
| Erica Berry
<i>Llano</i> | Jennifer Holm
<i>Kyle</i> |
| Stefanie Borchers Brown
<i>Leander</i> | Sheila Jennings
<i>Farwell</i> |
| Donna Carney
<i>Tioga</i> | Debra Johnson
<i>Canton</i> |
| Betty Conde
<i>Lamesa</i> | Kristan Kahler
<i>Ore City</i> |
| Trista Evans
<i>Pflugerville</i> | Pam King
<i>Slaton</i> |
| Lauren Field
<i>Allen</i> | Kimberly Kopecky
<i>Fulshear</i> |
| Yael Forgey
<i>Azle</i> | Tina Link
<i>Wylie</i> |
| Michelle Garcia
<i>Belton</i> | Linda Pecina
<i>Hearne</i> |
| Rocio Gonzalez
<i>Allen</i> | Donna Raglin
<i>Runaway Bay</i> |
| Christine Green
<i>University Park</i> | Donna Raper
<i>Emory</i> |
| Jessie Hanks
<i>Kaufman</i> | Gale Roberts
<i>Sulphur Springs</i> |
| Lori Hollingsworth
<i>El Campo</i> | Elsa Robles
<i>Hondo</i> |
| Bianca Maldonado
<i>Cotulla</i> | Imelda Rodriguez
<i>Eagle Pass</i> |
| Georgia Martinez
<i>Cotulla</i> | Jill Shelton
<i>Bandera</i> |
| Mickie Matlock
<i>Granbury</i> | Jennifer Stubbs
<i>Pflugerville</i> |
| Kelly McDonald
<i>Lake Worth</i> | Cynthia Sullivan
<i>Rosenberg</i> |
| Sharon McFadden
<i>Graham</i> | Danyel Swint
<i>Rosenberg</i> |
| Lisa Moravitz
<i>Upper Brushy Creek WCID</i> | Belinda Terrell
<i>Whiteface</i> |
| | Kendra Worthy
<i>Red Oak Fire Rescue</i> |
| | Stefani Wright
<i>Burnet</i> |
| | Sydney Wynn
<i>Tioga</i> |



Photo by Paul Traves

TMCCP Recertifying Class of 2020

Congratulations to graduates who have recertified their Texas Registered Municipal Clerk Certification!

1st Recertification

Lisa Dawn Cabrera
Juanita Fonseca, Dilley
Amber Fuller
Connie Hansen, Providence Village
Frances Hibbs, Amarillo
Michelle Hicks, Lacy Lakeview
Biliera Johnson, Dallas
Veronica Lomas, Southlake
Andrea McDonald, Keller

Kathryn Nour
Lisa Palomba, McLendon-Chisholm
Krista Peacock, Weatherford
Tanya Smith, College Station
Deborah Sorensen, Royse City
Bobbie Jo Taylor, Crandall
Mary Valenzuela, Kingsville
Angie Wade, Ennis
Cynthia Ward, Waller

2nd Recertification

Jeana Bellinger, Brenham
Peggy Cimics, Cibolo
Deborah Goza, Live Oak
Lisa Hernandez, Natalia
Stephanie Hunt, Corsicana
Cara McPartland, Salado
Ursula Paddie, Harker Heights
Sandy Page, Bowie

Saundra Passailaigue, Leon Valley
Hilda Pedraza, Pharr
Alicia Ramirez, Buda
Monica Solko, Lake Worth
Angela Stutts, Onalaska
Karen Warren, Hillsboro
Dessie Whelchel, Redwater

3rd Recertification

Marie Balthrop, Wichita Falls
Dianna Barker, Taylor
Kristi Gilbert
Sharon Harris, La Porte
Melba Hart, White Oak

Trish Holley, Burkburnett
Aimee Nemer, Richardson
Donna Pliska, Haltom City
Linda Rhodes, retired, Lake Worth
Jana Shelton, Crandall

Kim Sutter, Euless

4th Recertification

Cheryl Gibson-Salgado, Spearman

Dana Nixon, Pottsboro

5th Recertification

Rita Frick, Hurst

Janet Sheguit, BSP Engineers

6th Recertification

Deana McMullen, Aledo



At the January TMCCP Graduation Ceremony Luncheon, clockwise from top left: The 2020 TMCA Certification Committee shakes hands with graduates as they descend the stage. TMCA Certification Committee member Thomas Harris helps a graduate descend from the stage. UNT Associate Vice President for Finance & Administration for Regional Campuses Dr. Allen Clark shakes hands with a graduate on stage. Audience members in attendance at the Graduation Ceremony Luncheon. TMCA President Shelley George gives a gift of appreciation to keynote speaker and *Texas Municipal Election Law Manual* author and attorney Caroline Webster on behalf of the TMCA membership. TMCA/TMCCP Administrative Director Peggy Burnside, TRMC; TMCA Immediate Past President Kim Sutter, TRMC; President-Elect Aimee Nemer, TRMC; UNT Associate Vice President for Finance & Administration for Regional Campuses Dr. Allen Clark; keynote speaker and *Texas Municipal Election Law Manual* author and attorney Caroline Webster; and TMCA President Shelley George, TRMC.



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CivicClerk



CSA Software Solutions



FundView



Granicus



iCompass



JustFOIA



MCCI



NetDATA & GHS



PrimeGov



Televic Conference



Records Consultants, Inc. (RCI)

TMCCP ELECTION LAW SEMINAR

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of the 2020 Election Law Seminar!

Volunteer instructors:

Frances Aguilar, TRMC, City Sec. & Public Info. Officer, Angleton
 Christina Adkins, Legal Director–Elections Division,
 Texas Office of the Secretary of State
 Jeana Bellinger, TRMC, City Sec./Dir. of Admin. Services, Brenham
 Erika Brady, TRMC, Assistant City Clerk, Austin
 Amanda Campos, TRMC, City Secretary, Burleson
 LeAnn Gallman, TRMC, City Manager, Muleshoe
 Heider Garcia, Elections Administrator, Tarrant County
 Becky Garza, TRMC, City Secretary, Lubbock
 Jannette Goodall, TRMC, City Clerk, Austin
 Thomas Harris III, TRMC, City Secretary, Sugar Land
 Scott Houston, TML Deputy Executive Director & General Counsel
 Rebecca L. Huerta, TRMC, City Secretary, Corpus Christi
 Rosemarie Kanusky, Counsel, Norton Rose Fulbright, LLP
 Mary Kayser, TRMC, City Secretary, Fort Worth
 Camila W. Kunau, Assistant City Attorney, San Antonio
 Bill Longley, TML Legislative Counsel
 Sherry Mashburn, TRMC, Consulting City Sec., Bojorquez Law Firm, PC
 Ellie Monteaux, TRMC, City Secretary & Asst. City Manager, Livingston
 Aimee Nemer, TRMC, City Secretary, Richardson
 Irma Parker, TRMC, City Secretary, Addison
 Kim Perez, TRMC, City Secretary, Ralls
 Susie Quinn, TRMC, City Secretary, Murphy
 Myrna Rios, Deputy City Secretary, Austin
 Andrea Slater Gulley, Associate, Walsh Gallegos Law Firm
 Tanya Smith, TRMC, College Station
 Doris Speer, TRMC, City Secretary, Tomball
 James Tinley, Attorney, Texas Ethics Commission
 Leticia Vacek, TRMC, City Clerk, San Antonio
 Beth Walls, TRMC, City Secretary/HR Director, Levelland
 Caroline Webster, Assistant City Attorney, Austin
 Lee Woodward, TRMC, City Secretary, La Porte

Volunteer session conveners:

Linda Asbell, TRMC	Robin Lenio, TRMC
Marie Balthrop, TRMC	Sharon McFadden, TRMC
Zanea Carpenter, TRMC	Jenny Page, TRMC
Tammy Cook, TRMC	Irma Parker, TRMC
Robin Densmore, TRMC	Ivy Peterson, TRMC
Crystal Dozier, TRMC	Amy Piukana, TRMC
Shelley George, TRMC	Elena Quintanilla, TRMC
Shelly Goodwin, TRMC	Amy Shelly, TRMC
Traci Henderson, TRMC	Deborah Sorensen, TRMC
Shanae Jennings, TRMC	Tina Stewart, TRMC
Kristan Kahler, TRMC	Angie Wade, TRMC
Mary Kayser, TRMC	Melinda Welsh, TRMC
Laura Kennemer, TRMC	

Volunteer attendance scanners:

Linda Asbell, TRMC	Kristan Kahler, TRMC
Amy Arnold, TRMC	Laura Kennemer, TRMC
Marie Balthrop, TRMC	Robin Lenio, TRMC
Ruby Beaven, TRMC	Sharon McFadden, TRMC
Erika Brady, TRMC	Ellie Monteaux, TRMC
Ronda Cockerham, TRMC	Michelle Perez, TRMC
Tammy Dixon, TRMC	Ivy Peterson, TRMC
Crystal Dozier, TRMC	Amy Piukana, TRMC
Shanae Jennings, TRMC	Myrna Rios, TRMC
Russell Haddock, TRMC	Tina Stewart, TRMC
April Hill, TRMC	Sheila Williams, TRMC
Ron Gonzales, TRMC	

TMCCP Certificates Earned

Congratulations to the following enrollees who recently 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

Tracy Allmendinger, Garland
 Shawna Atkinson, Abilene
 Brandy Barrett, Westworth Village
 Fred Blanco, Rancho Viejo
 LeeAnn Blankenship, Anson
 Alex Busken, Arlington
 Katherine Cenicola, Cedar Hill
 Nikki Coronado, Shallowater
 Kristin Downs, Duncanville
 Trista Evans, Pflugerville
 Allene Gilmore, Kemp
 Elinka M. Harper, East Tawakoni
 Elizabeth M. Harrell, Oak Ridge North

Tina Link, Wylie
 Bianca Maldonado, Cotulla
 Georgia Martinez, Cotulla
 Mickie Matlock, Granbury
 Shelley McElhannon, Kerrville
 Courtney Paz, Lubbock
 Linda Pecina, Hearne
 Donna Raglin, Runaway Bay
 Gale Roberts, Sulphur Springs
 Jennifer Stubbs, Pflugerville
 Shamarie Hull, Collinsville
 Elanna Killian, Humble
 Catrina Maxwell, Nassau Bay

Staci Miller, Stinnett
 Kierra K. Nance, La Marque
 Jacqueline Moya, Los Fresnos
 Ashley Owens, Coppell
 Michelle Phillips, Lindale
 Theresa Prasil, Teague
 Jennifer Reyna, Navasota
 Nancy Sawyer, Liberty Hill
 Caryn Stevens, Red Oak
 Belinda Terrell, Whiteface
 Amanda Valdez, Cibolo
 Kendra Worthy, Red Oak Fire Rescue
 Sydney Wynn

Course 2

Fred Blanco, Rancho Viejo
 Betty Conde, Lamesa
 Amber Cunningham, Italy
 Christine Green, University Park
 Sandra Green, Farmersville
 Elanna Killian, Humble
 Tracy Miller, Kirby

Course 3

Erica Berry, Llano
 Vickie Coopwood, Texarkana
 Michelle Garcia, Belton
 Olga G. Garza, Southside Place
 Christine Green, University Place
 Sandra Green, Farmersville
 Kristan Kahler, Ore City
 Lisa Moravitz, Upper Brushy Creek
 WCID
 Michelle Phillips, Lindale
 Imelda Rodriguez, Eagle Pass
 Belinda Terrell, Whiteface
 Kendra Worthy, Red Oak Fire Rescue

Course 4

Ami Ashworth, Elkhart
 Brittany Andrews, Justin
 Shawna Atkinson, Abilene
 Brandy Barrett, Westworth Village
 Johna Childers, Lufkin
 Nikki Coronado, Shallowater
 Julie Davidson, Frisco
 Tina Flores, San Antonio
 Katy Froyd, Cresson
 April Gilliland, Liberty
 Christine Green, University Place
 Shai Green, Snyder
 Natasha Hinton, League City
 Sheila Jennings, Farwell

Jennifer Lynch, Smithville
 Stacie Miller, Stinnett
 Carla Oldacre, Wills Point
 Brad Overcash, Snyder
 Michelle Phillips, Lindale
 Theresa Prasil, Teague
 Imelda Rodriguez, Eagle Pass
 Bana Schneider, Columbus
 Caryn Stevens, Red Oak
 Belinda Terrell, Whiteface
 Amy Wallace, Crosbyton
 Cindy Woodard, Memphis
 Kendra Worthy, Red Oak Fire Rescue

TMCA/TMCCP EDUCATION DIRECTOR'S CORNER



Education Director
Dr. Amy Holt, TRMC

For our March issue I asked Jonestown City Secretary Rachel Austin, TRMC, to write a piece for the TMCA News to inspire anyone who has gotten started in the certification program but is having problems finishing it up. Rachel graduated with her Texas Registered Municipal Clerk certification (TRMC) at the 2020 Election Law seminar this January. I'm so proud of her and all the graduates! I hope Rachel's article will inspire several of you to keep working towards your TRMC! Completing just a few questions of homework each day will help you progress in the program. You can do it!

Motivated to Earn the TRMC

A deadline and TMCCP's transition to an online learning management platform for coursework helped Rachel Austin cross the finish line



Rachel Austin, TRMC

Although I had earned a BBA and had many years of business experience before becoming a municipal employee, I knew little about how cities really worked. After attending a couple of TMCCP seminars I realized how valuable the Certification Program could be for giving me the knowledge and skills needed to do my job well. I knew I would continue to attend the seminars, so decided to pursue the certification even though it was not required by my city.

At the time, I was a part-time assistant city clerk with some free time, and I made decent progress on the pro-

gram. Then, due to a move to full-time, increased duties, and move to another city to fill a city secretary position, my progress stalled for several years. Again, my new city did not require certification, so there was no immediate motivation to complete the program. Doing the homework was very time-consuming, as the online system was not yet available; answers had to be written out by hand or typed. I tried to remember to do a few questions each day, but something always seemed to get in the way.

What "woke me up" was a reminder that there is a time limit on completing the certification, and I was nearing

EDUCATION DIRECTOR'S CORNER

my limit. I definitely wanted to complete the program, and realized that if I didn't, all the work done would be lost and I would have to start all over again—a waste of time and money, both mine and my city's. I jumped back into the courses about the same time TMCCP began using the Canvas learning management platform for coursework, and it was great! Doing the coursework online saved time and made studying for the tests so much better.

I have now completed all of the coursework, seminars, and tests; I graduated in January, almost ten years after starting the program. The feeling of accomplishment and satisfaction is overwhelming, and I am extremely proud to be able to use the "TRMC" designation after my name.

To anyone like me who has stalled in their pursuit of the certification, I would say start again immediately! If you haven't done any homework since the Canvas platform became available, you will be impressed and pleased. Keep attending seminars regularly, as they all count toward your certification even if you have spans of time when you can't get to the homework. Everything you learn, hear, and experience at seminars and in the coursework will help you do your job better. Getting that certification is definitely worth it—don't give up!



*To anyone like me who has stalled
in their pursuit of the certification,
I would say start again immediately!*

*Everything you learn, hear,
and experience at seminars and
in the coursework will help you
do your job better.*

—Rachel Austin, TRMC

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Alamo Chapter

By Chapter Vice President **Debby Goza, TRMC**
City Secretary, Live Oak

Update from the TMCCP graduation ceremony in January! All these women pictured have worked diligently towards their certification and recertification and we are proud to be a part of the Alamo Chapter. There is a lot to celebrate!

*Pictured from left to right: **Sandra Passailaigue, TRMC**, city secretary, Leon Valley (second recertification); **Elsa T. Robles, TRMC**, assistant to city manager, Hondo (graduate); **Lisa Hernandez, TRMC**, city administrator/city secretary, Natalia (second recertification); **Debby Goza, TRMC**, city secretary, Live Oak (second recertification).*

Although Cibolo City Secretary **Peggy Cimics, TRMC**, was not in the picture, she received her second recertification. She was holding down the fort in Cibolo, and she has been our beacon and a supporter of all our Alamo Chapter membership!

One last mention: Gayle Wilkinson, deputy city secretary, Schertz, took her final test for her TRMC certification, and she is on her way toward excellence.



TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Capital Chapter

By Chapter President **Myrna Rios, TRMC**

Deputy City Secretary, Austin

The Capital Chapter met on December 18 and was hosted by Austin City Clerk Jannette Goodall, TRMC.

The meeting was promptly called to order to allow sufficient time to provide the chapter the opportunity to review and discuss the chapter bylaws that have required much attention. The discussion brought many insightful thoughts, suggestions, and proposals that we look forward to discuss further and take action on at an upcoming meeting. It was agreed that we need to collaborate and build relationships within the chapter and throughout the clerk world, which brought fascinating ideas that we look forward to sharing with and working on with other chapters—so stay tuned!



At top right: December 18 Capital Chapter meeting attendees: Betty Brown, retired; Melissa Perry, City of Thrall; Lucretia Alvarez, City of Taylor; Lacie Hale; JoAnn Touchstone, City of Lakeway; Lluvia T. Almarez, City of Manor; Rachel Austin, City of Jonestown; Elizabeth Myers, City of Jonestown; Robyn Densmore, City of Georgetown; Erika Brady, City of Austin; Stephanie Hall, City of Austin, Tanya Smith, City of College Station; Laura Calcote, City of Wimberley; and Myrna Rios, City of Austin.

At far lower right: Capital Chapter discussing bylaws at the December 18 meeting. Changes are coming!

CAPITAL CHAPTER

The nomination and election of Austin Deputy City Clerk Myrna Rios, TRMC, was made to fill the recently vacated position of president and assume office January 1–December 2020. The meeting was adjourned and social hour was had beginning with an ornament exchange, group photos, and BINGO. Much laughter was had.

On another note, many attended the 2020 TMCA Election Law Seminar in Frisco. Chapter member Jannette Goodall, TRMC, city clerk, Austin, made her debut as the Athenian Dialogue facilitator on the book *The Bielski Brothers* by Peter Duffy. Many first-timers attended, great discussion was had and new friendships were made both at the dialogue and the following TMCCP Election Law Seminar. It was great seeing everyone!

The next Capital Chapter meeting was scheduled to be held in February in Georgetown where we would look to fill the position of chapter secretary. Please contact Chapter President Myrna Rios, TRMC, deputy city clerk, Austin, at myrna.rios@austintexas.gov with questions or if you would like to join us!



TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Central Texas Chapter

By Chapter Secretary **Liz Caraway**

Assistant City Secretary, Waco

The Central Texas Chapter held a quarterly meeting on December 11, 2019, hosted by the City of Robinson and held at Te'jun the Texas Cajun Restaurant. This meeting served as the chapter's annual Christmas Party and everyone enjoyed delicious Cajun seafood. Each attendee brought a gift to donate to Toys for Tots as well as a Christmas Ornament for a gift exchange among the members, which is an annual tradition for the chapter. Christmas goodie bags were given to each attendee as party favors.

As an Ice Breaker Game, everyone told their favorite Christmas present and then business of the Central Texas Chapter was conducted, including nominations and votes for chapter officers. The meeting ended with a "What's Happening in Your City" blurb from attendees.

Everyone is invited to attend any of our quarterly chapter meetings. Contact incoming Chapter President Esmeralda Hudson, at ehudson@wacotx.gov for more information.

Those present at the December meeting:

Donna Barkley, TRMC, city secretary, Woodway

Liz Caraway, assistant city secretary, Waco

Jana Lewellen, TRMC, city secretary, Robinson

Christi Shivers, TRMC, city secretary, Mexia

Alicia Chaney, city secretary, Crawford

Esmeralda Hudson, city secretary, Waco

Lydia Lopez, city secretary, Hewitt

Amy Casey, City Clerk, Belton

Michelle Garcia, executive administrative assistant to the City Manager, Belton

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Coastal Bend Chapter

By Chapter Secretary **Cathy Duhart, TRMC**

City Secretary, Sinton

Greetings from the Coastal Bend Chapter! This quarter our chapter held a meeting in Ingleside on December 12 at the Humble Station. We enjoyed a delicious meal and had a great time of fellowship, sharing, and catching up.

Ingleside City Manager David Huseman was present and spoke on the benefit of city secretaries. He stated that city managers cannot do what they need to do without city secretaries, and the better the city secretary is, the better the organization is. He stated that the city secretary is the glue to make sure everything is going forward. He also declared that city managers do not tell city secretaries often enough how much they appreciate them.

Jenny Wood, Director of Sales for Records Consultants, Inc. (RCI), gave a brief presentation on Records Consultants, Inc., and records retention. Ms. Wood said that RCI is a part of Buy Board and TPPA.

The Nominating Committee recommended re-election of the current officers to serve the Coastal Bend Chapter for the year 2020: Mary Valenzuela, President; Rebecca Huerta, Vice President; Ruby Beaven, Treasurer; and Cathy Duhart, Secretary. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. The officers were to be installed at the January 9 meeting.



Around the table from center: Teresa Valdez, City Secretary, Rockport; Ruby Beavens, Asst. City Secretary, Rockport; Kimberly Henry; Mary Valenzuela, City Secretary, Kingsville; Kandi Hubert, City Secretary/Administrator, Goliad; Gabriela Hernandez, City Secretary, Beeville.

COASTAL BEND CHAPTER

We are really excited about the TMCCP Graduate Institute Seminar coming to Corpus Christi in 2020!!! We are getting closer to the time and are starting to finalize plans for the different entertainment events for the attendees.

Anyone interested in joining the Coastal Bend Chapter, or for general inquiries, can contact Chapter Secretary Cathy Duhart, City Secretary, City of Sinton, at 361-364-2381 or city1395@sintontexas.org.

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Hill Country Chapter

By Chapter Secretary **Kerri Craig, TRMC**
City Secretary, Horseshoe Bay

The Hill Country Chapter met in Fredericksburg at Altdorf Biergarten on December 12. We took care of the usual business related to approving minutes and financial reports, and quickly moved on to some exciting discussions about activities happening in each of our cities, including the announcement that Kerri Craig, TRMC (Horseshoe Bay City Secretary) earned the Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) designation from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC). We celebrated the holidays with our annual white elephant gift exchange and presented Pattie Grote (Mason Retired City Secretary) with her TMCA Retiree blanket. At the January TMCA Election Law Seminar in Frisco, we celebrated two of our members, Erica Berry (Llano City Secretary) and Jill Shelton (Bandera City Secretary) as they crossed the graduation stage as TRMCs. Kim Wagner (Llano Assistant City Secretary) passed her Course 2 exam at the seminar as well! We are so proud of our members! The Hill Country Chapter will be meeting in Burnet in February to discuss several items including plans for hosting an Athenian Dialogue in 2020 (Stay tuned for more info about this special event!). If you are interested



Top right: Hill Country Chapter members and TMCCP graduates Jill Shelton, TRMC, city secretary, Bandera, and Erica Berry, TRMC, city secretary, Llano, at the TMCCP Graduation Ceremony in January in Frisco.

Near right: Chapter members at the TMCCP Election Law Seminar in January.

HILL COUNTRY CHAPTER

in joining the Hill Country Chapter, please contact Chapter President Elaine Simpson (Granite Shoals) at citysecretary@graniteshoals.org or 830-598-2424.



Hill Country Chapter members at their December meeting.

Members in attendance at the December chapter meeting:

Pattie Allen, City Secretary, Mason

Laura Calcote, TRMC, City Secretary, Wimberley

Kerri Craig, TRMC, City Secretary, Horseshoe Bay

Brenda Craig, TRMC, Retired City Secretary, Kerrville

Kelly Dix, City Secretary, Burnet

Leslie Ball, Administrative Assistant, Fredericksburg

Shelley Goodwin, TRMC, City Secretary, Fredericksburg

Pattie Grote, Retired City Secretary, Mason

Tina Keys, City Secretary, Brady

Shelley McElhannon, City Secretary, Kerrville

Elaine Simpson, TRMC, City Secretary, Granite Shoals

Edie Walker, Deputy City Secretary, Johnson City

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Lone Star Chapter

By Chapter **Kristi Morrow, TRMC**

City Secretary, Frisco

The Lone Star Chapter had a busy December and January. The annual holiday party was held at the Old American Golf Club in The Colony. The event was a great success with over \$300 raised for the Lone Star Chapter Scholarship program. The chapter discussed plans for possible future scholarships to assist with paying for conference enrollment fees at the TMCCP Election Law Seminar held in Frisco for other TMCA members.

In January Frisco hosted the annual TMCCP Election Law Seminar and the members of the Lone Star Chapter came out in full force. The chapter hosted an Athenian Dialogue prior to the seminar with Austin City Clerk Jannette Goodall facilitating the book *The Bielski Brothers*. The dialogue was a great success. Additionally, chapter members handed out over 550 bags of popcorn to the attendees of the TMCCP Election Law Seminar. With a suggestion from Plano City Secretary Lisa Henderson the chapter handed out over 550 pink ribbons to show support for TMCA/TMCCP Education Director Dr. Amy Holt.

The newly created Newsletter Committee (Carole Kuykendall, Greenville; Stephanie Storm, Wylie; and Julie Davidson, Frisco) resurrected the chapter newsletter for the first time since 2012, which made its way out to the chapter members in January and will be sent to the membership every quarter. The next newsletter will be sent out in April 2020.



Lone Star Chapter members at their annual holiday party in December.

LONE STAR CHAPTER

The Lone Star Chapter next met February 20 at the Treehouse in Addison, hosted by Lone Star Chapter members Irma Parker, Addison, and Amy Piukana, Farmers Branch. Hamid Khaleghipour, CGCIO, Executive Director of Business Performance and Innovation—Town of Addison, spoke to the group regarding “Ransomware/Disaster Recovery—Proactive Measures and Response.” The chapter also met March 4 in Garland. Future meetings will be April 9 in Greenville-Quinlan and June 10 in Frisco.

More detailed information regarding the chapter can be found on the [chapter’s webpage](#). If you would like to join the Lone Star Chapter, please email kmorrow@friscotexas.gov for more information.

At right: Lone Star Chapter members bring popcorn (*top right*) to over 550 attendees of the TMCCP Election Law Seminar in January. They also distributed over 550 pink ribbons (*lower right*) in support of Dr. Amy Holt. *Below:* Attendees of the January Athenian Dialogue with dialogue leader Jannette Goodall.



TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Lower Rio Grande Valley Chapter

By Chapter Historian **Ruth McGinnis**
City Secretary, San Benito



November 2019 Meeting

The Lower Rio Grande Valley Chapter met on November 21 at the City of Peñitas. The speaker was Mr. Ricardo Mendoza, I.T. Security Officer, City of McAllen. Mr. Mendoza provided information on cyber security and the importance securing data.

December 2019 Meeting

Lower Rio Grande Valley Chapter met on December 18 at the City of Pharr at TopGolf. The speaker was Mr. Alberto Morales, Partnership Specialist with the U.S. Census Bureau. The meeting detailed all the aspects of the importance of being counted to benefit all cities.

January 15 Meeting

The Lower Rio Grande Valley Chapter met on January 15 at the City of San Juan. The speaker was Mr. Guillermo Reyna, CPA. Mr. Reyna provided information relating to municipal audits and maintaining good financial recordkeeping for transparency within our cities.

For more information about the Lower Rio Grande Valley Chapter or how you may join, please contact Chapter President Yesenia Rodriguez at 956-566-1375.



At right: The Lower Rio Grande Valley Chapter at their November meeting in Peñitas.

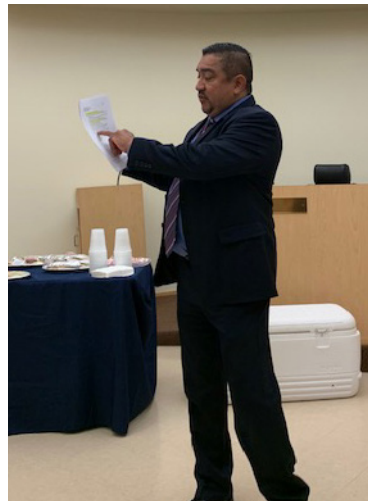
LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY CHAPTER



Top three photos: The Lower Rio Grande Valley Chapter at their December meeting in Pharr with speaker speaker Mr. Alberto Morales, Partnership Specialist with the U.S. Census Bureau.



Below: The chapter at its January meeting in San Juan. Mr. Guillermo Reyna, CPA, spoke on municipal audits and maintaining good financial recordkeeping for transparency within our cities.



TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

North Texas Chapter

By Chapter President **Monica Solko, TRMC**

City Secretary, Lake Worth

Greetings TMCA Members!

The NTMCA chapter has been hard at work with continuing to provide engaging educational opportunities every month with new and dynamic speakers. We have been fortunate to be hosted by cities across the metroplex. The chapter continues to be blessed with outstanding volunteers who work hard for the success of the chapter. Every member puts effort in supporting each other and achieving organizational goals.

Our November meeting was hosted by City of Flower Mound. Thank you to Theresa Scott and the City of Flower Mound for hosting our November meeting in their new council chambers. City Manager Jimmy Stathatos welcomed NTMCA to Flower Mound and spoke to the members about the history of the city. Our guest speaker was Texas State Representative House District 63 Tan Parker who has served since 2007. He provided a Legislative Update and spoke about the most current legislative session as well as challenges for the upcoming session including the election of a new Texas House Speaker. Rep. Parker also spoke about his efforts to aid in the prevention of human trafficking and assist victims and survivors. He shared



NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER

information about Jenna's Law which he helped author, originated in Denton County, and has become a model for the nation already adopted as law in 25 states.

In December our luncheon was hosted by the City of Keller. Thank you to Kelly Ballard, Andrea McDonald and the City of Keller for hosting our December Holiday luncheon at Keller Pointe. We were welcomed by Keller Mayor Pat McGrail. The Holiday Committee members Kelly Ballard (Keller) and Jillian Cloud (Arlington) did an amazing job organizing our fabulous holiday party in Keller. They worked really hard on putting this great event together and everyone had a great time. Our members raised \$1,148 in our silent auction and raffle that will go towards our Alyce Deering Scholarship Fund. Our members donated a total of \$300 to the Keller Gold Star Family Memorial Monument. The collected funds will be used for a NTMCA brick paver that will be included at the memorial. The monument will honor the families of servicemen and women who have sacrificed their lives while serving in the military.

Our January meeting was hosted by City of Lewisville. Special thanks to City Secretary Julie Worster and the City of Lewis-



NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER

ville for serving as our host for the January luncheon held at Medical City Lewisville Grand Theater. We were welcomed by Lewisville Council member TJ Gilmore. Speaker Julie Burch has over 20 years of speaking professionally. Julie's presentation was dynamic, high energy, highly interactive and funny. The topic was learning to change your habits and change your life. You can't stop change but you must be willing and able to adapt. The three keys to change are: explain change, current change and future change. Finding the why, why do you resist change? The number one reason for resistance is fear. We tend to think of change as losing something but by allowing ourselves to change, you realize you did not lose something but changed the way in which you were doing it. In order for you to grow and change, you must learn to be uncomfortable. In second key current change, we must learn to control ourselves (actions and attitude). In the third key, future change is when you continually change habits until it becomes normal thus reducing fear of change. Three tips for creating new habits: 1. identify the why; 2. write it down ("I will [action] at [time] in [location]"); 3. take small steps. Remember to celebrate the small successes. The 3 C's of Life: choices, chances, changes – you must make a choice to take a chance or your life will never change -Julie Burch .

The NTMCA is always looking to expand our membership and meet new clerks in our area. For anyone interested in attending our meetings or joining our chapter, please see our chapter website www.ntmca.org or contact Monica Solko at msolko@lakeworthtx.org or 817-237-1211 ext. 105. The NTMCA will meet on March 19th in Southlake and then April 8th will kick off our Professional Seminar "Navigating the Maze of E-Records and TABC Rules" in Flower Mound. We are very fortunate to be able to have amazing speakers to come to our meetings to share information and knowledge with us in order to enhance our leadership skills. We would love to share these opportunities for professional development with more of our colleagues. Please join us at an upcoming meeting to see what our chapter has to offer you.



NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER



TMCA North Texas Chapter members at the TMCCP Election Law Seminar in Frisco in January.



TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Pineywoods Chapter

By Chapter President **Ellie Monteaux, TRMC**

City Secretary & Assistant City Manager, Livingston

Greetings from the Pineywoods Chapter! The first quarter of 2020 is flying by! We've definitely been busy!

The TMCA Pineywoods Chapter held its first 2020 quarterly meeting at Ralph & Kacoo's seafood restaurant in Lufkin on January 15. Guest speaker Jenny Wood with Records Consultants, Inc. (RCI) discussed records retention and digitizing of plat and maps. She provided each member with a copy of the TSLAC Bulletin B and Bulletin F and reviewed highlights of each bulletin. A special Thank You to Jenny Wood and RCI, Inc., for sponsoring our lunch for the meeting. We look forward to seeing Jenny and her associates at future TMCA conferences as well.

The minutes and financial report were approved. Members voted to provide four door prizes for the TMCCP Election Law Seminar. The audit committee report was provided and approved regarding the 2018 and 2019 chapter financial audit. Members also discussed the upcoming May election.

Our next Pineywoods Chapter meeting was scheduled for April 8 at noon in Lufkin. Everyone is welcome to attend this meeting.



Pineywoods Chapter members at the January meeting in Lufkin.

PINEYWOODS CHAPTER

Several Pineywoods Chapter members attended the TMCCP Election Law Seminar in Frisco. This valuable education and training specifically addressed situations we face daily as a municipal clerk. The networking opportunities are invaluable. We hope to see you at the future seminars this year.

At the December 17 Hemphill city council meeting, Hemphill City Manager Laure Morgan, Pineywoods Chapter 2019 Vice President, presented the 2019 Pineywoods Chapter scholarship to Hemphill City Secretary/Accountant Kelli Beall. Kelli is enrolled the TRMC certification program and making steady progress through the requirements. The scholarship is in the amount of \$300 to be used during calendar year 2020. Congratulations, Kelli!

At the December 23 San Augustine city council meeting, Pineywoods Chapter 2019 Vice President Laure Morgan presented a plaque to San Augustine City Secretary Cinda Garner, TRMC, in recognition as the 2019 Pineywoods Chapter Municipal Clerk of the Year. Cinda will serve as the vice president of the Pineywoods Chapter for 2020. Congratulations, Cinda!

Happy 2020 from the Pineywoods Chapter!

Top right: San Augustine City Secretary Cinda Garner, TRMC (left), is recognized as the 2019 Pineywoods Chapter Municipal Clerk of the Year during the December 23 San Augustine city council meeting. With 2019 Pineywoods Vice President Laure Morgan, TRMC, and Mayor Leroy Hughes. *Near right:* At the December 17 Hemphill city council meeting, Hemphill City Manager Laure Morgan, TRMC, Pineywoods Chapter 2019 Vice President, presented the 2019 Pineywoods Chapter scholarship to Hemphill City Secretary/Accountant Kelli Beall.



TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Red River Chapter

By Chapter Secretary **Sharon McFadden, TRMC**

City Secretary, City of Graham

The Red River Chapter met for our quarterly meeting at El Tapatio in Wichita Falls on December 12.

President Balthrop called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Normal chapter business followed, with the approval of minutes and financials. Attendees provided donations totaling \$265 that were given to Women's Faith Refuge in Wichita Falls. The funds will assist displaced families. We had the Christmas ornament exchange and everyone was able to choose a bag. Some lost their dream ornament to someone else. However, everyone walked away with an ornament.

The Red River Chapter had great representation at the TMC-CP Election Law Seminar in Frisco. Jo Stone, City Secretary of Vernon, passed the exam toward earning her TMRC. Sharon McFadden, City Secretary of Graham, graduated with her TRMC; Sandy Page, City Secretary of Bowie, received her second TRMC recertification; Marie Balthrop, City Secretary of Wichita Falls, received her third TRMC recertification; and Trish Holley, Director of Administrative Services for Burk-burnett, received her third TRMC recertification.



RED RIVER CHAPTER

Everyone is invited to attend any of our chapter meetings. For more information about the Red River Chapter contact Chapter President Marie Balthrop (Wichita Falls) at marie.balthrop@wichitafallstx.gov.

Members present at the December meeting:

Sandy Page, TRMC, City Secretary, Bowie

Karibe Dixon, City Manager Assistant, Graham

Sharon McFadden, TRMC, City Secretary, Graham

Gerri Ayres, City Secretary, Holliday

Emily Trevino, City Secretary, Megargel

Tim Houston, City Secretary, Olney

Conchita Torrez, TRMC, City Secretary, Seymour

Kim Hemmi, TRMC, City Secretary, Scotland

Marie Balthrop, TRMC, City Clerk, Wichita Falls



TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

Salt Grass Chapter

By Chapter Secretary **Tracylynn Garcia, TRMC**

Assistant City Secretary, Tomball

November 2019 Meeting

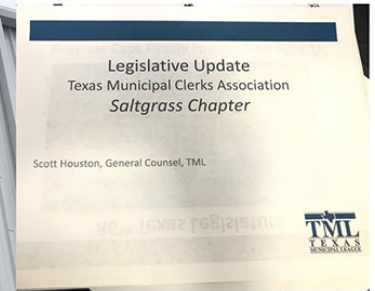
The Salt Grass Chapter held their monthly meeting on November 13 at Lost Lagoon in El Campo. Chapter President Crystal Dozier, TRMC, City Secretary, Hunters Creek Village, called the meeting to order. Scott Houston, General Counsel, TML, gave a presentation on “Hot Topics/Clarification for the 2019 Legislative Session.”

The chapter’s 2020 Executive Board slate was elected. The chapter approved a charitable donation of \$500 to the Bolivar Lighthouse, selected by President Crystal Dozier, TRMC, City Secretary, Hunters Creek Village.

The chapter accepted the 2020 slate of officers as follows: President Roxanne Benitez, TRMC, City Secretary, Spring Valley Village; Vice President Dixie Roberts, TRMC, City Secretary, Alvin; Secretary Tracylynn Garcia, TRMC, Assistant City Secretary, Tomball; Treasurer Tomika Lewis, TRMC, City Secretary, Stafford; and Historian Michelle Perez, TRMC, Deputy City Secretary, Friendswood.

December 2019 Meeting

The Salt Grass Chapter enjoyed the 2019 Holiday Luncheon & Annual Awards/ Installation Banquet on December 11 at Americas River Oaks, Houston. Salt



PhotoGrid

SALT GRASS CHAPTER

Grass Chapter President Crystal Dozier, TRMC, City Secretary, Hunters Creek, welcomed special guests and Salt Grass Chapter members. Mike Maxwell, president of Bolivar Lighthouse Foundation, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Congratulations are in order for winners of the Deloris McKenzie Scholarships and the Patrice Fogarty Athenian Dialogue Scholarships.

Frances Aguilar of Angleton, Lori Hollingsworth of El Campo, Angela Smith of Cleveland, and Lee Woodward of La Porte each received Deloris McKenzie scholarships for up to \$500 for travel and registration costs incurred while attending a seminar sponsored by the Texas Municipal Clerks Association, Inc. Frances Aguilar of Angleton, Lori Hollingsworth of El Campo, Angela Smith of Cleveland, and Lee Woodward of La Porte each received a scholarship for \$250 to attend an Athenian Dialogue. In addition, Olson & Olson awarded two scholarships to Lori Hollingsworth of El Campo and Brenda Rutt of Stagecoach.

The 2019 Salt Grass Chapter Outstanding Municipal Clerk of the Year was presented to Doris Speer, TRMC, City Secretary, Tomball, by Paula Favors, TRMC, City Secretary, Wharton (our 2018 recipient).



2019 Chapter President Crystal Dozier, TRMC, City Secretary, Hunters Creek; Paula Favors, TRMC, City Secretary, Wharton; 2019 Salt Grass Chapter Outstanding Municipal Clerk of the Year Doris Speer, TRMC, City Secretary, Tomball, and Tracylynn Garcia, TRMC, Assistant City Secretary, Tomball.

Inset: The 2019 Salt Grass Chapter Outstanding Municipal Clerk of the Year was presented to Doris Speer, TRMC, City Secretary, Tomball, by Paula Favors, TRMC, City Secretary, Wharton (our 2018 recipient).

SALT GRASS CHAPTER

President Crystal Dozier introduced the 2020 TMCA President-Elect Shelley George, TRMC, City Secretary, Allen. 2020 TMCA President-Elect Shelley George swore in the 2020 Officers: President Roxanne Benitez, TRMC, City Secretary, Spring Valley Village; Vice President Dixie Roberts, TRMC, City Secretary, Alvin; Secretary Tracylynn Garcia, TRMC, Assistant City Secretary, Tomball; Treasurer Tomika Lewis, TRMC, City Secretary, Stafford; and Historian Michelle Perez, TRMC, Assistant City Secretary, Friendswood.

January 2020 Meeting

The Salt Grass Chapter met on January 8 in Katy for its monthly meeting. Jenny Wood with Records Consultant Inc. (RCI) gave a presentation on "Digital Records." President Roxanne Benitez, TRMC, City Secretary, Spring Valley Village, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.

The next Salt Grass Chapter meeting is set for February 12 in Friendswood. Salt Grass Chapter meetings are typically held on the second Wednesday of the month, January through April and August through December. Our meetings are open to anyone and we welcome visitors!

At top: 2020 chapter officers take their oath of office.

At near right: Jenny Woods with RCI presenting "Digital Records" to the Salt Grass Chapter, hosted by the City of Katy at their City Hall.



SALT GRASS CHAPTER

Members in attendance at the January 2020 Salt Grass Chapter meeting were:

Roxanne Benitez, TRMC, City Secretary, Spring Valley Village
Paula Favors, TRMC, City Secretary, Wharton
Tracylynn Garcia, TRMC, Assistant City Secretary, Tomball
Lori Hollingsworth, TRMC, City Secretary, El Campo
Maria Jackson, TRMC, City Secretary, Missouri City
Shawna Jones, Executive Assistant, La Porte
Tomika R. Lewis, TRMC, City Secretary, Stafford
Lisa Modisette, TRMC, Assistant City Secretary, Hedwig Village
Angela Smith, TRMC, City Secretary/HR Manager, Cleveland
Cassie Stephens, City Clerk, Hillshire Village
Kimberly Kopecky, City Secretary, Fulshear
Becky McGrew, TRMC, City Secretary, Katy
Sasha Luna, Administrative Assistant, Katy
Gladis Sanchez, Records Manager, La Porte
Sheila Williams, City Secretary, Brazoria
Tammy Bell, City Secretary, Manvel
Mary Lou Craig, City Secretary, Brazos County
Heather Van Dine, TRMC, Records Management Coordinator, Friendswood
Paula Favors, TRMC, City Secretary, Wharton
Maria Rodriguez, Deputy City Secretary, Pearland
Crystal Roan, TRMC, City Secretary, Pearland
Jennifer Namie, TRMC, Olson & Olson
Michelle Perez, TRMC, Deputy City Secretary, Friendswood
Courtney Rutherford, City Secretary, Meadows Place
Brenda Poe, City Secretary, Huntsville

Others present were:

Kathy Jo Stewart, Interim City Secretary, Katy
Mandy Roberson, Records Specialist, Katy
Lindira Guerrero, Administrative Assistant, Katy
Jennifer Jeude, Deputy City Secretary, Cleveland

TMCA CHAPTER NEWS

South Plains Chapter

By Chapter Secretary **Zanea Carpenter, TRMC**
City Secretary, Muleshoe

The South Plains Chapter met on December 18 at the Texas Tech Club in Lubbock for our quarterly meeting. The meeting was hosted by Brenda Shaw from the City of Morton.

Chapter Vice President Kim Perez of Ralls called the meeting to order and introductions of members and guests took place. Charles Clements was introduced and commended for helping us secure the Texas Tech Club for our meeting. Charles gave a brief introduction of his company, RDM Solutions, and how he could be a benefit to those of us in this area.

Vice President Perez congratulated Belinda Terrell, Whiteface; Courtney Paz-Rivera, Lubbock; Betty Conde, Lamesa; and Pam King, Slaton for passing their latest exams and their upcoming graduation in January at the TMCCP Election Law Seminar. City Manger LeAnn Gallman, Muleshoe was also congratulated on her upcoming retirement. LeAnn announced she will be retiring May 1.

The South Plains Chapter had three members that were able to attend the IIMC Region IV meeting in San Antonio in December: Brenda Shaw of Morton, and LeAnn Gallman and Zanea Carpenter of Muleshoe.



SOUTH PLAINS CHAPTER

The South Plains Chapter had 28 members in attendance at the TMCCP Election Law Seminar in Frisco!!! Our chapter also had five members who graduated and received their TRMC certification: Betty Conde, Lamesa; Sheila Jennings, Farwell; Pam King, Slaton; Courtney Paz-Rivera, Lubbock; and Belinda Terrell, Whiteface.

If you would like to join us at a future meeting please contact Secretary Zanea Carpenter at zcarpenter@city-of-muleshoe.com for information.

Members and guests at the December meeting:

Jo Ann Beard, TRMC, City Secretary, Smyer
 Angie Briones, City Clerk, Seagraves
 Zanea Carpenter, TRMC, City Secretary, Muleshoe
 Charles Clements, RDM Solutions, Guest
 Jennifer Clements, TRMC, Asst. to City Secretary, Lubbock
 Betty Conde, TRMC, City Secretary, Lamesa
 Andrea Corley, Executive Assistant, Levelland
 Amanda Cummings, TRMC, City Secretary, Shallowater
 Judy Deavours, Mayor, Whiteface, Guest
 Caitlyn English, City Secretary Assistant, Lubbock
 Kathy Field, TRMC, Deputy City Secretary, Slaton
 Kirk Franklin, Honorary Member, Franklin Legal Publishing
 LeAnn Gallman, TRMC, City Manager, Muleshoe
 Patricia Isaguirre, TRMC, City Secretary Hale Center
 Pam King, TRMC, City Secretary, Slaton
 Laura Murphy, City Secretary, Wolforth
 Stephanie Nunn, Council Member, Whiteface, Guest
 Veronica Olguin, TRMC, Deputy City Secretary, Morton
 Courtney Paz-Rivera, TRMC, Dep. City Secretary, Lubbock
 Kim Perez, TRMC, City Secretary, Ralls
 Brenda Shaw, TRMC, City Manager/Secretary, Morton
 Lama Shoukffen, DDS, Guest, Franklin Legal Publishing
 Belinda Terrell, TRMC, City Manager/Secretary, Whiteface
 Jaime Torres, Director of Public Works, Smyer
 Sharon Trumble, City Secretary, New Deal
 Amy Wallace, City Secretary, Crosbyton
 Beth Walls, TRMC, City Secretary, Levelland
 Toni Wilson, TRMC, Retired, Sundown



South Plains Chapter members who earned their TRMC certification in 2020 (left to right): Betty Conde, Lamesa; Sheila Jennings, Farwell; Pam King, Slaton; Courtney Paz-Rivera, Lubbock; and Belinda Terrell, Whiteface.

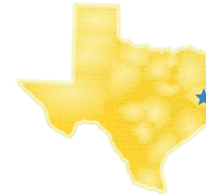


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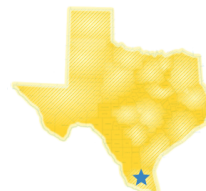
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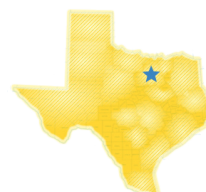
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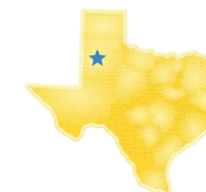
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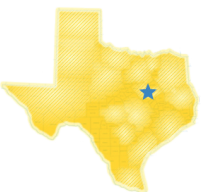
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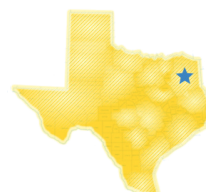
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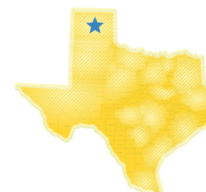
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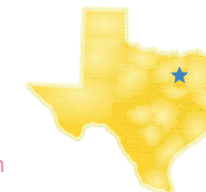
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EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS: *TMCA President Shelley George, President Elect Aimee Nemer, and Immediate Past President Kim Sutter*

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Dr. Amy Holt, TMCA/TMCCP Education Director*

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