

TMCA NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE TEXAS MUNICIPAL CLERKS ASSOCIATION, INC.



DECEMBER 2007

Vol. XVIII No. 4



CONTENTS

- President's Message • page 1**
- Election Law Seminar • page 4**
- 2008 Membership • page 4**
- Annual Banquet • page 5**
- 2008 President Fuller's Acceptance Speech • page 6**
- Clerk of the Year Honorees • page 9**
- Texas Municipal Clerk of the Year Pauline Small • page 10**
- Scholarship Awards • page 11**
- 2007 Retirees • page 11**
- 2008 Executive Board • page 12**
- New Trustee Profile: Sherry Mashburn • page 13**
- Graduate Institute • page 14**
- At the TML Conference • page 15**
- TML Report • page 17**
- IIMC News • page 18**
- 2008 Officers & Committees • page 19**
- Chapter News • page 20**
- Chapter Contact Information • page 32**

President's Message

Time

Hola Colegas!

What a great year this has been, especially because we have shared it together!

Is it the hustle and bustle of our daily lives, or is time passing so rapidly that it seems like only yesterday that my presidency began? And, yes, Christmas is right around the corner. I am definitely ready for Christmas, because it lives within our hearts year round; it is timeless.

Let us reflect on this past year and determine if we have made a difference in our own lives, our families, and our communities. Have we set aside time for each of these areas in our lives? Time is brief and we must be wise to fill it with the things we consider important.

As a whole, I believe we have utilized this year wisely and made important changes to keep TMCA, Inc., healthy, proactive, and progressive. As members, you decided what modifications were needed



TMCA President
Lydia Ozuna, TRMC

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President's Message

and took action. I am thankful for active and positive members like you who are aware of the need for change and have an optimistic outlook for our Association and its Certification Program. Our dedication and love for TMCA, Inc., and TMCCP have made this the most desirable and respected program in America and the world.

Graduate Institute in Fredericksburg was a great success and that is because you made it happen. As I mentioned at the beginning of the session, we had a wonderful problem in that registrations had grown to 220, and this facility had been scheduled three years in advance with an expected attendance of 150. It was the largest attendance we have ever had at Graduate Institute. Although we had a crowded room and no tables, you were flexible and worked around those things. Even the hotel staff was amazed at how flexible and organized you were and just pitched in to make this session the success that it was! I felt so proud of how you accepted and handled everything in an upbeat manner the entire time. That is just like a Texas Clerk!

The Annual Meeting was very positive as changes were presented to you, the membership, and you responded affirmatively. As I went around the lunch tables and visited with many of you, I saw networking in action. What a wonderful opportunity to visit and share ideas with our colleagues. Everyone seemed to really enjoy this time.

The Awards Banquet was incredible at the Admiral Nimitz Museum. That was another change that had to be made in order to accommodate the large group that we had attending. Our membership is increasing and attendance at this Graduate Institute is proof. Many well-deserved recognitions were made that evening and I was honored to have the opportunity to make those presentations.

From your evaluations I can say that you truly enjoyed this Graduate Institute and I want to thank you for your cooperation, participation, and patience in making this a memorable Graduate Institute.

see our
Graduate Institute
photos on page 14

our
Annual Banquet
coverage
starts on page 5



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2008 TMCA President Lila Fuller, TRMC, city secretary, Nacogdoches, awards a plaque of appreciation to 2007 TMCA President Lydia Ozuna, TRMC, city clerk, Wichita Falls.

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President's Message



TML Conference photos on pages 15-17

We are concluding our year with a strong sense of accomplishment. The seminars were excellent and the speakers were informative as well as entertaining.

It has been an exciting, fulfilling, and challenging year to serve as your president! The chapter visits were the highlight of my presidency, and each reception was similar to a "red carpet" event. All of you were so gracious and thoughtful with every detail as you hosted me in your municipalities. These are priceless memories that will remain with me always.

Thank you for allowing me to serve you in this capacity and for all your support and the continued commitment you give to Texas Municipal Clerks Association, Inc., and our Certification Program.

I wish for each one of you the success and achievements for which you strive, today, tomorrow, and into the future. May God richly bless your lives as you strive to do the very best.

TEXAS CLERKS ARE THE BEST!

Feliz Navidad y Un Año Nuevo Llénalo de Gozo y Paz
(Merry Christmas and a New Year Full of Joy and Peace)

Lydia Ozuna, TRMC
2007 President, TMCA, Inc.

Toni Wilson, TRMC, city secretary, Sundown, and Pauline Small, TRMC, city secretary, Webster.



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Lydia Lopez, TRMC, city secretary, Hewitt; Norma Aguilar, TRMC, city secretary, Odessa, and Sherrill McDaniel, customer service representative, Waco.



courtesy Terre Noble, TRMC



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At the induction ceremony during the TMCA Annual Banquet: Trish Ervin, TRMC, city secretary, Waco; Pam Schmidt, TRMC, city secretary, Richardson; Lydia Ozuna, TRMC, city clerk, Wichita Falls; and Mary Kayser, TRMC, city secretary, Garland.



courtesy Terre Noble, TRMC

At the TMCCP Graduate Institute Seminar.



© Paul Traves

President Lydia Ozuna, TRMC, city clerk, Wichita Falls, with 2006 President Patrice Fogarty, TRMG, city secretary, Missouri City.

more
Annual Banquet
photos start on page 9!

Announcements

comprehensive topics



expert speakers



TMCCP enrollee graduation



excellent location & amenities



TMCCP 36th Annual Election Law Seminar

Hyatt on Town Lake, Austin
January 30-February 1, 2008

Register now for the January Election Law Seminar in Austin!

Topics and speakers:

Pre-Seminar Session (optional)
Responsibilities of the Municipal Clerk in Municipal Elections
Step-by-Step Process of an Election

Questions and Answers
Speakers: *Patrice Fogarty, TRMC; Linda Knight, TRMC; Sherry Mashburn, TRMC; Deloris McKenzie, TRMC*

Election Law Seminar

Problem Clinic: Secretary of State Legislative Update
Melinda Nickless

Legislative Update, Contracting Elections, Training Workers
Bruce Sherbet

U.S. Department of Justice: Federal Voting Rights, Preclearance
John Tanner

Early Voting
Arthur Camacho, Jr., TRMC; Rebecca Garza, TRMC; Terre Noble, TRMC

[click here to learn more & register](#)

Now Accepting 2008 Membership

Notices of our 2008 membership dues were emailed and mailed to all members this autumn.

If you have not paid your dues yet, now is the time to rejoin! [click here for the TMCA 2008 membership form](#)

Please note that the membership voted at the annual business meeting to increase dues to \$85.00 for 2008.

membership contest [click here](#)

Our annual membership contest begins again! The TMCA member who brings in the most NEW members to TMCA will win a TMCCP seminar registration. The contest deadline is August 28, 2008.

TMCA distributed
\$9,081.38
in scholarship funds
in 2007.

Did you apply?

watch for 2008 scholarship applications in our March issue!



TMCA Annual Awards Banquet

Fredericksburg, October 11, 2007

all photos this page © Paul Traves, f16 Photography, unless noted



The 2007 TMCA Annual Awards Banquet was held at the Admiral Nimitz Pacific War Museum in Fredericksburg, Texas. Highlights of the evening included recognition of our 2007 retirees; several scholarship presentations including the Franklin Legal Publishing Scholarship, the American Legal Publishing Scholarship, and two Dorothy F. Byrd Scholarships; presentation of the 2007 Municipal Clerk of the Year, Pauline Small, TRMC, city secretary, Webster; installation of the 2008 officers and trustees; and the 2008 president's acceptance speech by Lila Fuller, TRMC, city secretary, Nacogdoches. 2007 TMCA President Lydia Ozuna presided.



At left: President Ozuna swears in the new officers (see page 12 for full list). Far left: Mary Kayser, TRMC, city secretary, Garland; LeAnn Gallman, TRMC, city secretary, Muleshoe; President Lydia Ozuna, TRMC, city clerk, Wichita Falls.

Middle: Norma Aguilar, TRMC, city secretary, Odessa; Arthur Camacho, Jr., TRMC, city secretary, Azle; and Linda Knight, TRMC, city secretary, Breckenridge.

Near left: Pauline Small, TRMC, city sec., Webster; Toni Wilson, TRMC, city sec., Sundown; and Sherry Mashburn, TRMC, city sec., Bee Cave.

courtesy Terre Noble

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President's Acceptance Speech

By Lila Fuller, TRMC

Lila Fuller was elected 2008 TMCA President. She delivered her acceptance speech at the TMCA Awards Banquet in Fredericksburg on October 11.

I never “dreamed” of being a City Secretary when I grew up—much less the president of anything—yet here I am, about to embark on one of the proudest moments in my career. I didn’t get here on my own, however. There are many individuals that have influenced my life, giving me confidence and encouragement along the way.

I have been employed by the City of Nacogdoches for 24 years, first at the police department and then the municipal court. In 1990 I began working in the City Secretary’s office. At that time, the assistant city manager also served as the city secretary, so as deputy city secretary I was given many of the responsibilities normally performed by the city secretary. Two weeks after I started in that department, the city commission called a special sales tax election—**talk about learning quickly!** I had not been through any election training—the Election Law Seminar was still six months away—but because the city secretary was a member of TMCA, he directed me to call the head offices and they were able to get me in touch with people and agencies to help me. My city secretary at the time, Cleon Compton, was a true believer in the benefits of TMCA and the certification program, and encouraged me to

enroll from day one. He supported me in the program and allowed me to do my homework at the office during slow times. He gave me more responsibilities and, more importantly, let me make mistakes under his watchful eye.

●

*We are a family
917 members strong
and we depend on each other
to laugh with,
cry with,
and share the frustration
and pride that
only others in our profession
could understand.*

●

Nacogdoches is a small town in east Texas approximately 50 miles from the Louisiana border. I had not traveled out of town a lot, and had never traveled out of town alone, so the thought of driving to Austin to attend a seminar was quite daunting. However, my desire to learn what I needed to know to do my job gave me the courage to set off on this new adventure! The first seminar I attended was the Election Law Seminar—one of the largest seminars we have. I was so unsure of myself and felt like I didn’t belong there. I didn’t feel I knew enough about my new job to even hold a conversation with all of the other experienced clerks that were

there. I remember looking around thinking that everyone must know each other by the way they were acting, and I didn’t know who any of them were. So, I found a chair in the back table in the corner. I was able to make it through the morning sessions without anyone noticing me—only

President's Acceptance Speech • Lila Fuller, TRMC

one and a half more days to go and I was home free! Then it happened. Two of the friendliest ladies asked me to sit at their table at lunch. In the back of my mind I was dreading the awkwardness I would feel because I would not be included in their conversation—after all, everyone else knew each other already! But it wasn't like that at all—it was the beginning of a lasting friendship. They made me feel comfortable, they made me laugh, they were really interested in getting to know me, and they invited me to sit with them again. That small act of kindness made the rest of the seminar so much more enjoyable!

That first seminar was quite a confidence builder! Going in I was pretty confident I had done everything wrong during my "trial by fire" election and I was determined to get the May election right. But you know what? As I sat through those sessions, I found myself saying, "Hey, I did that"... "You know, that's what I did!"... and, "Wow, how did I know to do that?" Knowing that I had done it right gave me such confidence going into the May election. When I left that first seminar, I was ready to take on the world!

As the months went by and I worked on my certification, I gained confidence with every lesson. The notes of encouragement Dr. Snay would write on my homework pages gave me the confidence to tackle the next challenge. I can look back now and laugh at the nervousness I felt as I stared at that brown envelope from TMCCP that contained my first graded homework. You know the feeling... your brow starts sweating... your hands start shaking as you open the envelope: no Academy Award announcement could compare to the anticipation of finding out the joy—or in my mind, the probable doom—of my first homework

grade. Even today, those two little words, "Good job!" have a special meaning. But it wasn't just on the homework that Dr. Snay influenced me. Dr. Snay made me look at things differently. She made me feel like my job was the most important job in the world. She made me feel like I belonged. She recognized me at seminars—me, out of hundreds of clerks in attendance—and always said something positive and encouraging. Dr. Snay saw something in me that I couldn't see in myself—she saw

As we start a new year, I encourage you to reach out to those clerks that may not be active in TMCA or in your local organization, or find that clerk at the corner table, and extend to them your hand of friendship and offer your help if they need it.

potential. The potential to be a leader in my city, the potential to be a TMCA Board member, and the potential to be President of TMCA.

The Texas Municipal Clerks Association has been such a positive influence in my life. I have learned to perform the duties required of me in a professional manner, taught by some of the leading experts in their field. I have gained new friends and been mentored to by some of the friendliest, most giving people I know. I have learned to be a friend and

mentor to others through networking both on a statewide level and at a local level. I have learned to travel alone, and have the confidence that if I break down in any town in Texas, I have a friend at city hall... whether I have met that friend yet or not. We are a family, 917 members strong, and we depend on each other to laugh with, cry with and share the frustration and pride that only others in our profession could understand. We encourage each other on Election Day and grieve together when one of us has suffered a loss. We depend on each other—and others depend on us.

As we start a new year, I encourage you to reach out to those clerks that may not be active in TMCA or in your local organization or find that clerk at the corner table and extend to them your hand of friendship and offer your help if they need it. Call them periodically and ask if there is anything you can do for them. Invite them to your local chapter as a guest and offer a ride. It's not about their membership—though we welcome all secretaries and clerks to join—but it is about sharing ideas and information, and letting every clerk know that there is help if they need it.

So many people have supported and encouraged me over the years. Tonight I would like to take a few minutes to offer my thanks.

- **To Cleon Compton**—for letting me grow and make mistakes along the way—I honor your memory tonight.
- **To Pauline Small and Patrice Fogarty**—thank you for asking me to sit at your table some 17 years ago. I cherish the friendship we have.
- **To Dr. Joyce Snay**—thank you for seeing something in a shy, young girl from east Texas that she didn't know she had. I am honored to share this moment with you.

President's Acceptance Speech • Lila Fuller, TRMC

- **To Peggy Burnside**—the knowledge you possess about this organization is immeasurable. Thank you for all that you do for TMCA. I know I will depend on your knowledge and guidance over the next year to keep me running on course.
- **To Jo Moore**—your quiet, gentle nature has always been such an inspiration to me. I admire how you handle conflict while maintaining that calm, sweet spirit. I aspire to be the kind, gentle leader that you are.
- **To Stacy Corley**—thank you for being my right hand, my second brain, my prayer warrior and a great source of strength for me. I am very fortunate to have you working beside me.
- **To Terre Noble**—you have always been one of my greatest cheerleaders! Thank you for the confidence you have in me and how you lift me up when I need it. And by the way, NOBODY can find their way around Dallas like you!
- **To my fellow Piney Woods Chapter members**—thank you for your friendship and willingness to help one another. Though I'm not as involved as I would like, I am thankful for the dedication of our chapter. We may be small, but we're mighty!
- **To Pam Schmidt**—Thank you for letting me talk you into being my co-presenter at the Election Law Seminar—and yes, I know I will owe you for the rest of my life! We are a prime example of how you can make lasting friendships through this organization.
- **To my City Manager, Jim Jeffers and my City Commission**, for allowing me the budget and time away from the office to learn and grow in my



profession. The confidence you have in me is because of the education I have received through TMCA. During the next year I not only will be representing TMCA, but the City of Nacogdoches. Thank you for allowing this opportunity.

- **To my family**, who couldn't be here tonight because of other commitments at home. They've eaten a lot of Hamburger Helper over the years and have been my "free labor" on Election Day, but have never complained. They are proud of my accomplishments and show that through their love and support.

- And finally, I thank my Heavenly Father for blessing me with a loving family, good friends and a career that I feel so fortunate to have. It is with Him that I can do all things.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 says, "Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing." I ask each one of you to seek out opportunities to encourage one another and mentor a new or inexperienced clerk—or even a seasoned one. No matter how long we've been doing this, we can always use a "Good job" to keep us going. Continue sharing the knowledge and experience you have gained

from this amazing organization and encourage others to do the same.

A hand of friendship was extended to me many years ago, and I grabbed it and held on tight! I am thankful for what the Texas Municipal Clerks Association has provided me, and I am honored to work with you as we begin a new year. I look forward to the opportunity to visit each chapter and get to know each of you a little better. As I close, I offer this thought—wisdom is not what you know, but what you do with what you know. I challenge each of you to make yourself available and to share what you have learned from our wonderful organization, building leaders along the way. ★

network
on the TexasMunicipalClerks
Yahoo! Group

[click here](#)

join
a local TMCA chapter

[click here](#)

attend
a TMCCP seminar

[click here](#)

Municipal Clerk of the Year

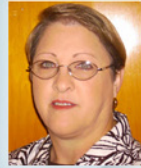
Congratulations to all the honorees!

ALAMO CHAPTER



Barbara Haddock, TRMC
CITY SECRETARY
HOLLYWOOD PARK

BLUEBONNET CHAPTER



Linda Knight, TRMC
CITY SECRETARY
BRECKENRIDGE

CAPITAL CHAPTER

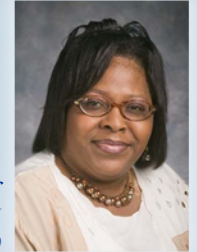


Melissa Brunner, TRMC
CITY SECRETARY
FLATONIA
Chapter Clerk of the Year



Sherry Mashburn, TRMC
CITY SEC./HR. DIR.
BEE CAVE
TMCA Clerk of the Year Nominee

CENTRAL TEXAS CHAPTER



Trish Ervin, TRMC
CITY SECRETARY
WACO

COASTAL BENED CHAPTER



Betty Wood
CITY SECRETARY
SINTON

LONE STAR CHAPTER



Eddie Sturgal, TRMC
CITY SECRETARY
LOWRY CROSSING

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER



Codi Delcambre, TRMC
TOWN SECRETARY
ARGYLE
Chapter Clerk of the Year



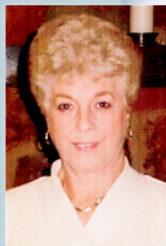
Pam Schmidt, TRMC
CITY SECRETARY
RICHARDSON
TMCA Clerk of the Year Nominee

PINEYWOODS CHAPTER



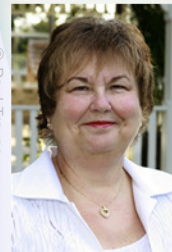
Cinda Garner
CITY SECRETARY
SAN AUGUSTINE

RED RIVER CHAPTER



Pat Quisenberry, TRMC
CITY SECRETARY/
PERSONNEL DIR.
VERNON

SALT GRASS CHAPTER



© Paul Traves

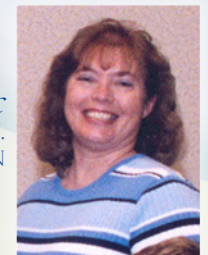
Pauline Small, TRMC
CITY SECRETARY
WEBSTER
TMCA Clerk of the Year

SOUTH PLAINS CHAPTER



Toni Wilson, TRMC
CITY SECRETARY
SUNDOWN

WEST TEXAS CHAPTER



Rebecca Brewster, TRMC
CITY SEC./ADMIN.
VAN HORN

TMCA Municipal Clerk of the Year

Pauline Small, TRMC

Pauline Small, TRMC, city secretary, Webster, was selected as the 2007 Texas Municipal Clerk of the Year. The award was presented by Committee Chair Terri Johnson, TRMC, city secretary and city manager, Friona, during the Annual Texas Municipal Clerks Associations' Awards Banquet held in Fredericksburg.

Ms. Small has served as city secretary in the City of Webster since 1998. Previously, she served as city secretary in the City of Sealy for six years. She earned the prestigious Texas Registered Municipal Clerks Certification in 1997 and completed the requirements for recertification in 2002 and 2007. She is currently enrolled in the third level of recertification. In 1998, she met the requirements of a Certified Municipal Clerk of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks, California. In 2002 she was accepted into IIMC's Master Municipal Clerks program.

City Secretary Small currently serves on the executive board of TMCA. As an active professional and mentor, Pauline has served on all the TMCA committees of the statewide organization and has made outstanding contributions to the development of the professional education of municipal clerks throughout Texas.

Pauline has served as an instructor for numerous educational sessions for TMCCP, H-GAC (COG), and the Salt Grass Chapter. She served as a chapter co-author for the sixth, seventh, and eighth editions of the *Texas Municipal Clerks Handbook*. She chaired the MMCi Records Management Scholarship program for TMCA, and assisted in the development of the Deloris McKenzie Scholarship for local Salt Grass Chapter members.

Ms. Small served as president of the local Salt Grass Chapter of municipal clerks in 1998 and served in all the chapter's offices and committees prior to election as president. She has also served as an instructor for pertinent topics and as a mentor for the chapter members.

On behalf of the Salt Grass Chapter members, Patrice Fogarty, TRMC, city secretary, Missouri City, said, "Pauline Small is respected for her leadership and dedication to the City of Webster, the profession, the chapter as well as to TMCA, Inc. She is committed to performing her job to the highest standards and provides an exemplary example of an outstanding municipal official."



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2007 TMCA Clerk of the Year Pauline Small, TRMC (left), city secretary, Webster, is presented the Clerk of the Year award by TMCA Clerk of the Year Committee Chair Terri Johnson, TRMC, city secretary/city manager, Friona.

Scholarship Awards



Several scholarships were awarded at the TMCA Annual Awards Banquet.

Above: **Gail Weir** (left), city secretary, City of Ore City, was awarded a Dorothy F. Byrd Scholarship in the amount of \$500 at the TMCA Awards Banquet in Fredericksburg. TMCA Scholarship Committee Chair **Toni Chrestman, TRMC**, city secretary, Slaton, presented the award to Gail.

Top right: **Krysten Jeter**, deputy city secretary, Dalworthington Gardens, was awarded a \$500 scholarship sponsored by American Legal Publishing Corporation. American Legal's **Richard Frommeyer** made the presentation at the Annual TMCA Awards Banquet.

Above right: **Terre Noble, TRMC**, city secretary, Center, was awarded a \$500 scholarship sponsored by Franklin Legal Publishing. President **Kirk Franklin** presented the scholarship award.

Below right: **Eddie Sturgal, TRMC**, city secretary, Lowry Crossing, was presented with a Dorothy F. Byrd Scholarship in the amount of \$500 by Scholarship Chair **Toni Chrestman**.



2007 TMCA Retirees

Congratulations to the following TMCA members retiring this year!

Elaine Bealke, TRMC, city secretary, Plano

Geraldine Binford, city secretary, Navasota

Jo Carol Boyles, city secretary, Canyon

Beatrice Cervantez, TRMC, city secretary, Hondo

Minerva Falcon, city secretary, Kyle

Becky Frels, TRMC, city secretary, Hewitt

Geri Haddock, city secretary, Texarkana

Theresa Helbert, city secretary, Helotes

Phyllis Jeffers, city secretary, Pampa

Carolyn Jones, city secretary, Fairview

Jo Moore, TRMC, city secretary, Abilene

Pat Quisenberry, TRMC, city secretary/personnel director, Vernon

Nancy Ross, city secretary, Waxahachie

Ann Smith, deputy city secretary, New Braunfels

Cynthia Trower, city secretary, Farwell

Chris Wade, TRMC, city secretary, Levelland

Danna Welter, TRMC, city secretary, Huntsville

Wilma Williams, city secretary, Denver City



Retirees recognized at the Annual TMCA Awards Banquet were (left to right) **Beatrice Cervantez, TRMC**, city secretary (ret.), Hondo; **Pat Quisenberry, TRMC**, city secretary (ret.), Vernon; and **Jo Moore, TRMC**, city secretary (ret.), Abilene.

2008 TMCA Executive Board

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Introducing your 2008 TMCA Executive Board (*back row, from left to right; front row, from left to right*):



Trustee Pauline Small, TRMC
City Secretary, Webster



Trustee Linda Knight, TRMC
City Secretary, Breckenridge



Trustee Toni Wilson, TRMC
City Secretary, Sundown



Trustee Arthur Camacho, Jr, TRMC
City Secretary, Azle



Trustee Norma Aguilar, TRMC
City Secretary, Odessa



AMC Chair Patrice Fogarty, TRMC
City Secretary, Missouri City



Trustee Sherry Mashburn, TRMC
City Secretary, Bee Cave



Treasurer LeAnn Gallman, TRMC
City Secretary, Muleshoe



Vice President Pamela Schmidt, TRMC
City Secretary, Richardson



Past President Lydia Ozuna, TRMC
City Clerk, Wichita Falls



President Lila Fuller, TRMC
City Secretary, Nacogdoches



President Elect Patricia Ervin, TRMC
City Secretary, Waco



Secretary Mary Kayser, TRMC
City Secretary, Garland

Profile:

New TMCA Executive Board Trustee Sherry Mashburn, TRMC

Sherry Mashburn, TRMC, was appointed city secretary of the City of Bee Cave in 1999; since 2006 she has also been director of human resources. Sherry earned her Texas Registered Municipal Clerk Certification in 2002 (No. 401), earned her first recertification in 2007, and is currently enrolled in her second recertification. She also holds the CMC; is 3rd Level MMCA; and is a certified Professional in Human Resources.

Sherry is active in TMCA. She is a member of the Capital Chapter of TMCA, where she has served as chapter president, vice president, and treasurer; she was also honored as 2004 Capital Chapter Clerk of the Year. Sherry is also a member of IIMC; the National Association of Parliamentarians; and the Society for Human Resource Management.

Sherry has served as an instructor on the Step-by-Step Election Law team since 2003. The May 2005 IIMC Annual Conference included Sherry as a panelist for “Clerk 101—Basics for New City Clerks.” In July 2004, Sherry was appointed to the Open Records Steering Committee to represent all Texas cities. Sherry was appointed to the City/County Ad Hoc Committee on HAVA Implementation in April 2006. Also in 2006, Sherry co-authored the chapter on “Public Information” in the eighth

edition of the *Texas Municipal Clerks Handbook*; co-authored an article titled “Mentoring” for *IIMC News Digest*; and was a panelist at Secretary of State 18th Annual Election Law Seminar. Sherry has been a presenter on Parliamentary Procedure for TML Newly Elected Officials in both 2006 and 2007.



Sherry Mashburn

In addition to her professional affiliations, Sherry is active in her community. Her activities include Spicewood Beach POA and St. Stephen Minister (NW Hills UMC).

Sherry’s family includes husband Charlie; daughter Tracey and son-in-law Sean, with grandchildren Savannah and Sawyer; son James and new daughter-in-law Marlene; and her dog, Dockers. Sherry’s hobbies include reading, painting, sewing, swimming, and fishing.

When asked to comment upon her election to the TMCA Executive Board, Sherry said, “I am very excited and tremendously honored to have been selected to serve as a Trustee for the Texas Municipal Clerks Association. I hope to follow in the footsteps of those that have gone before me by sharing their commitment to excellence in education, professionalism and the highest standards in ethics and integrity.”

Graduate Institute Seminar

Fredericksburg, Texas, October 11-12, 2007

The TMCCP Graduate Institute Seminar, “The Leadership Challenge” with speaker James Dodson, was a terrific success. Thank you to the many who attended and made this a memorable event!

Below left: Pauline Small, TRMC, city secretary, Webster, and Linda Knight, TRMC, city secretary, Breckenridge, assist with seminar registration. Right: Terre Noble, TRMC, city secretary, Center, and Sandra Watkins, TRMC, city secretary, Deer Park, sell TMCA t-shirts at the seminar.



Below: Attendees of the Graduate Institute Seminar in Fredericksburg.



TMCCP Certificates Earned

The following enrollees 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 2

Linda Ardis, Lavon

Zanea Carpenter,
Muleshoe

Dara Crabtree,
Duncanville

Christy Fath, Burnet

Diane A. Callahan,
Highland Village

Tracy Freimarck,
Windcrest

Debbie Haile, Leander

Nancy Hale, Spur

Krysten Jeter,
Dalworthington Gardens

Edna Lopez, Kingsville

Sandy McCoy,
Highland Village

Jenny Page, Dayton

Lisa Ramsey, Trophy Club

Jennifer Reyna,
San Antonio

Karen Sampson,
Orange County WCID#1

Angie Scarlett,
Throckmorton

Conchita Torrez, Seymour

Gayle Walton, Wylie

Susie Williamson,
Shallowater

COURSE 3

Diane Callahan,
Highland Village

Nancy Hale, Spur

Cathy McMullan, Corsicana

Ursula Paddie, Lampasas

Gayle Walton, Wylie

COURSE 4

Theresa Bowe, Yoakum

Diane Callahan,
Highland Village

Amanda Davenport,
Angleton

Cathy McMullan, Corsicana

Texas Municipal League Conference Annual TMCA Booth

The Texas Municipal Clerks booth at the Texas Municipal League Conference in Dallas in November was a wonderful success. Thank you to TML Booth Committee Chair Codi Delcambre, TRMC, and the North Texas Municipal Clerks Association Chapter, who served as the TML Booth Committee members!

Thank you to all those who volunteered at the TMCA Booth during the TML Conference:

Fonda Bright, deputy city secretary, Bee Cave

Arthur Camacho Jr., TRMC, city secretary, Azle

Susan Crim, TRMC, city secretary, Euless

Codi Delcambre, TRMC, town secretary, Argyle

Brenda Dennis, TRMC, city secretary, Haltom City

Shelly Doty, TRMC, city secretary, Cleburne

Jean Dwinell, TRMC, town secretary, Copper Canyon

Rita Frick, TRMC, city secretary, Hurst

Marty Hendrix, TRMC, city secretary, Fort Worth

Mary Kayser, TRMC, city secretary, Garland

Sherry Mashburn, TRMC, city secretary/HR director, Bee Cave

Ashley Mitchell, TRMC, city secretary, Carrollton

Linda Rhodes, TRMC, city secretary, Lake Worth

Alicia Richardson, TRMC, city secretary, Highland Village

Cynthia Singleton, TRMC, city secretary, Colleyville

Eddie Sturgal, TRMC, city secretary, Lowry Crossing

Thanks also to Codi Delcambre, TRMC, and Carissa of Argyle, and Texas Municipal Clerks office staff Peggy Burnside and Miriam Sheehan, for setting up the TMCA booth.



Photos clockwise from top left. Above: **Marty Hendrix, TRMC**, city secretary, Fort Worth; **Cynthia Singleton, TRMC**, city secretary, Colleyville; and **Eddie Sturgal, TRMC**, city secretary, Lowry Crossing.



Above right: **Alicia Richardson, TRMC**, city secretary, Highland Village; **Sherry Mashburn, TRMC**, city secretary, Bee Cave; and **Fonda Bright**, deputy city secretary, Bee Cave.



Right: **Mary Kayser, TRMC**, city secretary, Garland; and **Susie Quinn, TRMC**, city secretary, Rowlett.



Left: **Miriam Sheehan**, administrative assistant, and **Peggy Burnside**, administrative director, Texas Municipal Clerks.

TML Conference (continued)



Texas Municipal Clerks took the opportunity at the TML Conference to thank our vendors for their generous support of our scholarship fund. Photos, clockwise from left:

Left: Franklin Legal Publishing, Inc.—**Jennifer Rempe**, administrative assistant; **Kirk Franklin**, president; and **Christine Taylor**.

Top left: American Legal Publishing Corporation—**Michele Girard**, Texas Client Services, and **Richard Frommeyer**, codification consultant.

Above: Municipal Code Corporation—**Dan Pineau**, vice president, MCC innovations; **Russell Haddock**, MCC innovations; **Dale Barstow**, vice president of sales; and **Patrice Fogarty**, TRMC, city secretary, Missouri City.

Top right: **Cynthia Olguin**, city secretary/administrator, City of Italy, was awarded the \$500 Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson Scholarship by **Richard Hill** during the TMCA professional session held on Friday.



Right: **Kim Whitton**, assistant to city secretary, Hurst, was awarded a \$500 scholarship sponsored by Questys Solutions. **Charlene Webber**, government sales, Questys Solutions, presented the scholarship to Kim during the TMCA professional session.

Below: Texas municipal clerks visiting vendors' booths. Left to right, American Legal Publishing Corporation; Franklin Legal Publishing, Inc.; Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson; Municipal Code Corporation; and Questys Solutions.



TML Conference (continued)



The 2007 TMCA professional session of the TML Conference was held on Friday morning. Entitled "Your Electronic Office," it featured presenters (pictured above, left to right) **Kathy Wingo, TRMC**, city secretary, Lucas; **William Langley**, GIS Director, Garland; **Mary Kayser, TRMC**, city secretary, Garland; and **Patrice Fogarty, TRMC**, city secretary, Missouri City.

Below: Attendees take their seats for the TMCA professional session at the TML Conference.



Texas Municipal League Report

By TML Representative Patricia Ervin, TRMC



It has been my pleasure to represent the Texas Municipal Clerks Association, Inc., as a member of the Texas Municipal League Board of Directors. This has been an interesting first year and I look forward to continued service under the direction of President Todd Pearson.

TML Audit and Finance Committee met on Wednesday, November 7th at the TML Annual Conference in Dallas, Texas. The committee reviewed the auditors report, discussing reporting unfunded liabilities in retirement plans.

TML Board Meeting

The TML Executive Board meeting was held on Wednesday, November 7 at 9:00 a.m.

The board approved amendments to the TML Constitution/Texas Public Purchasing Association, changing the name from Texas Purchasing Management Association to Texas Public Purchasing Association, and only municipal officials or municipal employees may participate in the election or selection of the affiliate director.

Frank Sturzl, TML Executive Director, voiced appreciation to Senator Royce West and Representative Fred Hill for their distinguished legislative service. Senator West and Representative Hill were honored and presented tokens of appreciation at a TML dinner on Wednesday night.

The Board also approved amendments to the 2007-08 TML operating budget to include TML dues to the Texas Civil Justice League and encouraged cities to become TCJL members and dues to National Association of Towns and Townships NATaT (adding an expense of \$17,500.00 to the League's 2007-08 budget).

A committee was formed to study endorsing city officials for National League of Cities Board of Director positions. Four names were submitted for NLC Board of Directors.

TML Board welcomed new members, including incoming President Elect John Cook of El Paso, and said goodbye to members who have served their TML board terms.

The next TML board meeting will be February 29, 2008, in Austin, Texas. ★



IIMC News

Mary Lynne Stratta, TRMC, MMC
IIMC Vice President

The IIMC Board of Directors met October 25-26 for its mid-year board meeting. Most of the discussion centered around the new education guidelines. After a very lengthy discussion, the Board asked President Charles Tokar to appoint a small Task Force to review the IIMC education program. At my request, the Task Force will be instructed to quickly address two issues: IIMC preapproval of courses and grandfathering of members enrolled in the certification programs prior to January 1, 2007. The Task Force will also review the removal of the levels in the Master Municipal Clerk Academy and all other aspects of the IIMC education/certification programs. I encourage any members with concerns or suggestions to offer comments to the Task Force, or to the Region IV Committee that will be appointed by Region IV Directors Gloria King and Eddie Myers to offer input to the Task Force. The Board also approved funding in next year's budget to allow the development of more online courses as part of IIMC's On-line Learning Institute.

The IIMC Budget and Planning Committee met in late August and mapped out a revised 2007 budget and 2008 budget that reflect a positive balance at the end of those two fiscal years. The board approved both at the mid-year meeting. These budgets, however, do not take into account any settlement or judgment rendered as part of ongoing litigation that began in 2005. I can promise you that the current Executive Committee is doing everything in its power to settle these lawsuits fairly and move IIMC forward past this difficult time.

I am very proud to report that a proposal I submitted to the IIMC and Municipal Clerk Education Foundation (MCEF) Boards was approved by both boards and will go into effect for the 2008 IIMC Annual Conference. For the first time ever, MCEF will be awarding two grants per IIMC region to pay the cost of registration at the IIMC annual conference for two deserving IIMC members in each region. Criteria have been developed and information will be disseminated soon regarding this opportunity to help clerks who otherwise would not have the resources to attend the annual conference.

The 2008 annual conference will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, May 18-May 22. Some of the highlights of

what I know will be an outstanding conference include: opening reception at the "It's the Real Thing" Coca-Cola world headquarters, which features a multi-sensory 4-D theater, a pop culture gallery and much more; a session for international conference delegates at the Carter Presidential Center; the all-conference event at Stone Mountain Park Encounter, Georgia's 3,200 acre unique park destination; and an excellent educational program that will offer a variety of educational opportunities with outstanding speakers for our delegates. I hope you will make plans to attend the conference.

The IIMC Region IV Annual Conference will be held in Little Rock, Arkansas, November 29-December 1. For more information, you can contact Diane Whitbey at DWhitbey@northlittlerock.ar.gov.

As of the writing of this article, the 2010 annual conference bid has yet to be awarded. Most of you know that the original plan was to hold the 2010 conference in Sydney, Australia. Due to travel costs which would have prevented our delegates from attending, and the requested rental fee of close to \$250,000 for the Sydney convention center, the IIMC Board decided to look instead at cities in the United Kingdom to host the 2010 conference. Several UK cities have submitted bids, but due to the current value of the American dollar in the UK, those bids so far have resulted in hotel and food/beverage costs that would also make those destinations impossible for IIMC, or our members, to afford. We are looking at other options and hope to make that decision within the next 30 days.

Finally, as I have said for some time, IIMC's future should reside in the hands of its members. Please apply to serve on an IIMC committee when the application form is distributed in an upcoming IIMC News Digest. We need your help to insure IIMC's future success.

As always, if you would like further information about IIMC or have questions, suggestions or concerns, please [let me know](#). ★

CMCs and MMC Awarded

Kristi Gilbert, TRMC, deputy town secretary, Bartonville; and **Kelly D'Amato, TRMC**, town secretary, Hickory Creek, have recently been awarded the prestigious Certified Municipal Clerk designation from IIMC. The CMC designation requires that a municipal clerk must attend extensive education programs, as well as have pertinent experience in a municipality. Kristi Gilbert earned her Texas Registered Municipal Clerk Certification (TRMC) in 2005 (No. 466), and is currently enrolled in her first recertification. Kelly D'Amato earned her TRMC in 2001 (No. 369), recertified in 2006, and is currently enrolled in her second recertification.

Sandy Hart, TRMC, city secretary, McKinney, has recently been awarded the prestigious Master Municipal Clerk (MMC) designation from IIMC. To qualify for entrance into the Master Municipal Academy (MMCA), which prepares participants for achieving the MMC status, one must have earned the CMC designation. The Academy members must demonstrate that they have actively pursued educational and professional activities and have remained informed of current socio-political, cultural, and economic issues that affect local governments and municipalities. Sandy Hart earned her TRMC in 2001 (No. 373), recertified in 2006, and is currently enrolled in her second recertification.

2008 TMCA Officers & Committees

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Lila Fuller
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PRESIDENT ELECT

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VICE PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY

Mary Kayser
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EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS: Patrice Fogarty, Advisory Management Committee Chair; and Peggy Burnside, TMCCP/TMCA, Administrative Director

CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE

LaDonna Floyd, Chair
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EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS: Lila Fuller, TMCA President; Patricia Ervin, TMCA President Elect; and Lydia Ozuna, TMCA Immediate Past President

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COMMITTEES

ADVISORY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Patrice Fogarty, Missouri City,
Past President, Chair
Trish Ervin, Waco, President Elect
Lila Fuller, Nacogdoches, President
Lydia Ozuna, Wichita Falls,
Immediate Past President
*LaDonna Floyd, Nederland,
Certification Committee Chair**
*Peggy Burnside, TMCCP/TMCA,
Administrative Director**

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Ashley Mitchell, Carrollton, Chair
Becky Brewster, Van Horn
Cheryl Gibson-Salgado, Spearman
Mary Kayser, Garland, Board Liaison

HISTORIAN

Suzanne Finch, Hereford

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

RECORDS COMMITTEE

(formerly known as STATE LIBRARY BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE)

Brenda Shaw, Morton *(representing counties with population <10,000)*
Leticia Vacek, San Antonio *(representing counties with population >10,000)*

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

(Comprised of Chapter Presidents)
Toni Chrestman, Slaton, Chair
Norma Aguilar, Odessa, Board Liaison

MUNICIPAL CLERK OF THE YEAR COMMITTEE

Aimee Nemer, Murphy, Chair
Stacy Corley, Nacogdoches
Michele Glaser, Seabrook
Linda Knight, Breckenridge,
Board Liaison
Eddie Sturgal, Lowry Crossing

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Martha Gillett, La Porte, Chair
Marie Balthrop, Holliday
Scarlet Swoboda, Victoria
Lila Fuller, Nacogdoches, Board Liaison

OPEN RECORDS STEERING COMMITTEE

Melissa Brunner, Flatonia

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Annette Villarreal, McAllen, Chair
Stephanie Brim, Huntsville
Brenda Dennis, Schertz
Toni Wilson, Sundown, Board Liaison

RETIREMENT COMMITTEE

Linda Rhodes, Lake Worth, Chair
Arthur Camacho Jr., Azle,
Board Liaison
Brenda Craig, Kerrville
Shelley George, Allen

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Sandy Hart, McKinney, Chair
Nina Browning, Winnsboro
Lydia Lopez, Hewitt
Kathy Wingo, Lucas
Peggy Burnside, TMCCP/TMCA,
Administrative Director
Pauline Small, Webster, Board Liaison

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Patrice Fogarty, Missouri City, Co-Chair
Shelley George, Allen, Co-Chair

TML BOOTH COMMITTEE

Yolanda Benitez, Hondo, Chair
Alamo Chapter Members

TML REPRESENTATIVE

Patricia Ervin, Waco, President Elect

**non-voting member*

TMCA Chapter News

ALAMO CHAPTER

By Leticia M. Vacek, TRMC

The Alamo Chapter met August 24 at the Artisans' Alley/Apple Annie's Tea Room. Our special guest for this meeting was TMCA President Lydia Ozuna, TRMC, city clerk, Wichita Falls. Ms. Ozuna spoke about the TMCCP Program and all the benefits clerks and secretaries can derive from certification.

In other business, a draft copy was handed out to the membership of amendments to the chapter's bylaws. The

members were asked to submit any changes or additions to the draft document so that the amendments could be adopted at the next meeting.

By a unanimous vote, the group agreed to donate \$300 from our chapter to the TMCCP scholarship fund. There being no further business before the members, the meeting was adjourned by Chapter President Leticia M. Vacek, TRMC, city clerk, San Antonio. ★



Above: **TMCA President Lydia Ozuna, TRMC**, city clerk, Wichita Falls; **Leticia Vacek, TRMC**, city clerk, San Antonio; and **Leticia Saenz**, deputy city clerk, San Antonio.



At left: **Members of the Alamo Chapter attending the August 24, 2007 meeting.**

Pictured from left to right, front row: **Janice Alamia**, deputy secretary, Hollywood Park; **Linda Gill**, city secretary, Castle Hills; **Barbara M. Haddock, TRMC**, city secretary, Hollywood Park; **TMCA President Lydia Ozuna, TRMC**, city clerk, Wichita Falls; **Leticia Vacek, TRMC**, city clerk, San Antonio; **Yolanda C. Benitez, TRMC**, city secretary, Hondo; **Sandra Rodriguez**, deputy city secretary, Hondo.

Pictured from left to right, back row: **Amelia Ramirez**, senior executive secretary, San Antonio; **Tina Flores**, assistant to the city clerk, San Antonio; **Janice Carleton**, city secretary, Hill Country Village; **Ann Smith**, deputy city secretary, New Braunfels; **Celia DeLeon**, city secretary, Olmos Park; **Sandra Passailaigue**, city secretary, Shavano Park; and **Leticia Saenz**, deputy city secretary, San Antonio.

Not pictured: **Delia Flores, TRMC**, city secretary, Balcones Heights; **Cindy Urrabazo**, city secretary, Pleasanton; and **Cindy Trevino**, city secretary, Jourdanton.

TMCA Chapter News

BLUEBONNET CHAPTER

By Nancy Turnbow

On June 13, the Bluebonnet Chapter met at Frontier Texas! in Abilene for a tour of the museum, followed by a trolley ride (courtesy of CityLink Transit) to Under One Roof for lunch at “The Loft.”

President Rhonda Williams, city secretary, Dublin, presided over the meeting. Jo Moore, TRMC, city secretary (ret.), Abilene, welcomed those in attendance.

Those present for the meeting were: Cindi Alldredge, city secretary, Roby; Virginia Dill, city secretary, Cisco; Danette Dunlap, interim city secretary, Abilene; Maria Franco, city secretary, Hamlin; Karen Lou Graham, city secretary, Anson; Pat Harris, records inventory specialist, Abilene; Linda Knight, TRMC, city secretary, Breckenridge; Diane Latham, assistant city secretary, Breckenridge; Pat Martindale, city secretary, Bronte; Jaime McCright, city secretary, Stamford; Jo Moore, TRMC, city secretary (ret.), Abilene; Billie Pearce, city secretary, Tuscola; Renee Scott, Abilene; Shirley Stuart, city secretary, Eastland; Kay

Torres, city secretary, Robert Lee; Nancy Turnbow, city secretary, Baird; and Rhonda Williams, city secretary, Dublin.

Jo Moore gave the invocation, after which lunch was served.

The Bluebonnet Chapter met in Stamford on September 12. The meeting was hosted by Stamford City Secretary Jaime McCright. Present at the meeting were Karen Lou Graham, city secretary, Anson; Linda Knight, TRMC, city secretary, Breckenridge; Diane Latham, assistant city secretary, Breckenridge; Pat Martindale, city secretary, Bronte; Jaime McCright, city secretary, Stamford; Billie Pearce, city secretary, Tuscola; Kay Torres, city secretary, Robert Lee; Nancy Turnbow, city secretary, Baird; Louetta Wallace, city secretary, Haskell; and Rhonda Williams, city secretary, Dublin.

After a wonderful lunch and informative meeting, we toured the Stamford Millworks, which was very interesting and one of Stamford’s expanding businesses. ★

CAPITAL CHAPTER

By Toni Milam, TRMC

CONGRATULATIONS, Melissa Brunner, TRMC, city secretary, Flatonia, on being honored as the 2007 Capital Chapter Clerk of the Year!

On September 19, City of Bastrop Mayor Tom Scott, City Manager Mike Talbot, and City Secretary Teresa Valdez, TRMC, welcomed nineteen members of the Capital Chapter to beautiful downtown Bastrop. The chapter held their meeting at the Genuine Oyster Bar & Grill, compliments of the City of Bastrop.



2007 Capital Chapter Clerk of the Year Melissa Brunner, city secretary, Flatonia, with Capital Chapter’s nominee for Texas Municipal Clerk of the Year, Sherry Mashburn, TRMC, city secretary, city secretary/HR director, Bee Cave.

TMCA Chapter News

CAPITAL CHAPTER, CONTINUED

Those in attendance were Fonda Bright, deputy city secretary, Bee Cave; Susan Brock, city clerk, Taylor; Betty Brown, TRMC, local government/election specialist, Bickerstaff Heath; Melissa Brunner, TRMC, city secretary, Flatonia; Debbie Chelf, TRMC, city secretary, Hutto; Cindy Crosby, Bickerstaff Heath; Shirley Garvel, city secretary, Elgin; Mary Goerig, La Grange; Amy Harris, city secretary, Cameron; Sherry Mashburn, TRMC, city secretary/HR director, Bee Cave; Toni Milam, TRMC, city secretary, Buda; Lisa Oltmann, city secretary, La Grange; Brenda Page, city secretary, Smithville; Amelia Sanchez, city secretary, Kyle; Ruby White, TRMC, city secretary (ret.), Luling, and her guest, Glenda White; Linda Winn, city secretary, Lakeway; and Violet Zbranek, city secretary (ret.), La Grange.

President Sherry Mashburn conducted the regular order of business at the meeting while others enjoyed their lunch. After a great lunch, several members visited a variety of the Historical Bastrop downtown shops.

The next chapter meeting will be held at the City of Bee Cave. President Sherry Mashburn will welcome everyone to Bee Cave's brand new City Hall.

Melissa Brunner, TRMC, city secretary, Flatonia, was named the Capital Chapter's Clerk of the Year, and our very own Sherry Mashburn was a nominee as Texas Municipal Clerk of the Year.

See you all at the Election Law Seminar in Austin in 2008. Have a great holiday season and be safe when traveling. ★

CENTRAL TEXAS CHAPTER

By Donna Hawkins

The Central Texas Chapter held their bi-monthly meeting on October 10 at the City of Hubbard's Historic High School.

Chapter members present included: Violet Bumpers, Dawson; Diana Echartea, TRMC, city secretary, Wortham; Kendra Giles, administrative assistant, Robinson; President Betty Harrell, city secretary, Hillsboro; Donna Hawkins, city secretary, Beverly Hills; Monica Hendrix, city secretary, Lorena; Dorthy Jackson, city secretary, Hubbard; Yrene Morgan, TRMC, administrative assistant, Teague; Beth Nemeth, city secretary, Blooming Grove; Karen Sanchez, Robinson; Jana Taylor, city secretary, Fairfield; Christi Shivers, TRMC, city secretary, Mexia; Linda Vranich, city secretary, Robinson; and Karen Warren, records specialist, Hillsboro.

President Betty Harrell will appoint a nominating committee for selection of 2007 CTMC Municipal

Clerk of the Year. Members will email or send their nominations to Betty Harrell at Hillsboro. The appointment will be made during the December meeting. Members discussed the process of election of officers and were encouraged to volunteer on the nominating committee. Members will notify Betty Harrell if interested in serving on that committee.

Discussion was held concerning meeting dates for 2008. Presently the meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month, which conflicts with several TMCCP seminars. A motion was made and approved that the meetings for all 2008 bi-monthly meetings will be on the third Wednesday of the month.

The next chapter meeting will be held on December 13 for the Christmas Party at the Hamilton House in Waco. ★

TMCA Chapter News

COASTAL BEND CHAPTER

By Irma Parker, TRMC



The Coastal Bend Chapter held their quarterly meeting in Ganado on September 12 at the Ganado Telephone Company Building. Ganado City Secretary Larry Thompson presented a good program and an enjoyable fun-filled afternoon which included a surprise 50th birthday party for Edna City Secretary Becky Miska. Chapter members assisted in decorating the meeting room with “Over the Hill”-type posters in addition to various “age progressing” pictures of City Secretary Miska (we loved those baby pictures!) which her family gladly furnished for our enjoyment.

Members were honored to have Ganado’s Mayor Clinton Tegeler in attendance. After delivering his welcoming address and his PR pitch for us to stay and shop in Ganado, Mayor Tegeler showed that presenting



Coastal Bend Chapter members at their September meeting (*at top*), and displaying posters for Edna City Secretary Betty Miska’s surprise birthday party (*above*).

TMCA Chapter News

COASTAL BEND CHAPTER, CONTINUED

and preparing a meal is another of his many talents. The food was wonderful! A special treat was the homemade, cream-filled kolaches prepared by Mayor Tegeler's wife, Lori. A dozen of these yummy deserts were given away as a door prize.

Georgina Ibarra, field services representative, TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool, gave a brief informational update of insurance problems and concerns affecting coastal communities and TML's efforts to keep down costs. Windstorm insurance is becoming more costly; cause and effect was discussed. A short business meeting was held to announce that President Patsy Gibson, city secretary, Palacios, had resigned to accept a position in the private sector. Pursuant the chapter bylaws, current officers will move up to the next elected position completing the remaining term of office. The position of treasurer, now vacant, will be filled at the December meeting. The Nominating Committee, chaired by Kingsville City Secretary Edna Lopez, will present a nominee at the December meeting. Individuals interested in running for treasurer were asked to contact Edna Lopez or Nominating Committee members Betty Wood or Esther Arzola.

Members present in Ganado were: Esther Arzola, TRMC, city secretary, Port Aransas; new member Theresa Bowe, city clerk, Yoakum; Pat Brown, administrative assistant, Rockport; Cynthia L. Contreras, city secretary, Bishop; Connie Cramer, city secretary, Bayside; Pam Hatzenbuehler, deputy city secretary, Port Aransas; Edna Lopez, city secretary, Kingsville; Becky Miska, city secretary, Edna; Ada Owens, TRMC, city secretary, Aransas Pass; Irma Parker, TRMC, city secretary, Rockport; Kathy Railsback, town secretary,

Fulton; Scarlet Swoboda, TRMC, city secretary, Victoria; Billie Jo Tennill, city secretary, Odem; Larry Thompson, city secretary, Ganado; and Betty Wood, city secretary, Sinton.



Betty Miska, city secretary, Edna, at the Coastal Bend Chapter's celebration of her birthday.

The chapter's next meeting is scheduled for December 12 and will be co-hosted by Rockport's City Secretary Irma Parker, Administrative Assistant Pat Brown, Records Clerk Carolyn Cauley, and Fulton Town Secretary Kathy Railsback. The meeting will be held at the Old Schoolhouse, in Fulton. The Old Schoolhouse, built in 1886, will be decked out in full Christmas cheer as the council members and employees are hard at work to prepare the Old Schoolhouse for the annual Historic Homes Christmas Tour conducted in the Rockport-Fulton Area. The building is currently used to hold the Town of Fulton council meetings.

An educational program will be presented by Ada Owens, TRMC, city secretary, Aransas Pass; Scarlet Swoboda, TRMC, city secretary, Victoria; and IIMC Vice President Mary Lynne Stratta, TRMC, city secretary, Bryan. Ada and Scarlet will present information on "Agendas and Minutes" and Mary Lynne will present a program on "Parliamentary Procedures." This promises to be a fun, entertaining,

and educational program! Details on this meeting and other items of interest will be included in the chapter newsletter.

For further information concerning the Coastal Bend Chapter, please contact President Irma Parker, TRMC, 361-729-2213, ext. 138, or Secretary Scarlet Swoboda, TRMC, 361-482-3040. ★

TMCA Chapter News

LONE STAR CHAPTER

Carole Ehrlich, TRMC

The Lone Star Chapter met in McKinney in October. Members in attendance were: Dorothy Brooks, TRMC, city secretary, Rockwall; Stephanie Calame, records management administrative assistant, Wylie; Beverly Covington, TRMC, deputy city secretary, McKinney; Bruce Dunn, city secretary, St. Paul; Carole Ehrlich, TRMC, city secretary, Wylie; Vickie Faulkner, TRMC, city secretary, Celina; Stephanie Galandies, city secretary, Heath; Shelley George, TRMC, city secretary, Allen; Holly Harmon, records management administrator, McKinney; Sandy Hart, TRMC, city secretary, McKinney; Nina Jones, city secretary, Denison; Angie Kelly, deputy city secretary, The Colony; Carole Kuykendall, assistant city secretary, Greenville; Lisa Lewis, city secretary, Pilot Point; Julie Lollar, TRMC, city secretary, Denison; Aimee Nemer, TRMC, city secretary, Murphy; Debbie Newell, city secretary, Greenville; Cathy Pugh, city secretary, Tom Bean; Pamela Schmidt, TRMC, city secretary, Richardson; Carrie Smith, city secretary, Parker; Elaine Simpson, TRMC, city secretary, Seagoville; Eddie Sturgal, TRMC, city secretary, Lowry Crossing; Vickie Varnau, TRMC, city administrator, Pilot Point; guest Alex Vengeas, McKinney; Gayle Walton, administrative assistant, Wylie; Christie Wilson, TRMC, city secretary, The Colony; and Kathy Wingo, TRMC, city secretary, Lucas.

The chapter was very pleased to have as its special guest TMCA President Lydia Ozuna, TRMC, city clerk, Wichita Falls. President Ozuna addressed the members and stated that this is a special time of the year for her to go to all of the chapters and meet everyone. She also stated that the Lone Star Chapter was doing very well for a new chapter.

President Ozuna conducted the installation of the Lone Star Chapter 2007-2008 officers. Mrs. Ozuna mentioned that she would talk about different kinds of fruit during the installation process of the 2007-2008 officers. During the installation process, the new officers received fruit, an analysis of the fruit in relation to their new office, and the value they brought to the chapter. President Carole Ehrlich received apples; Vice President Kathy Wingo received grapes; Secretary Eddie Sturgal received a pineapple; Treasurer Christy Wilson received apricots; and Historian Stephanie Galanides received peaches. TMCA President Ozuna administered the oath of office to each new officer as well.

The City of Frisco will host the November meeting of the Lone Star Chapter. The guest speaker will be Attorney Julie Fort. Mrs. Fort will be speaking on Legislative Updates in regards to Conflict of Interest. ★



Lone Star Chapter 2007-2008 Officers. *Left to right:* Vice President **Kathy Wingo, TRMC**, city secretary, Lucas; Historian **Stephanie Galanides, TRMC**, city secretary, Heath; Treasurer **Christie Wilson, TRMC**, city secretary, The Colony; Secretary **Eddie Sturgal, TRMC**, city secretary, Lowry Crossing; and President **Carole Ehrlich, TRMC**, city secretary, Wylie. TMCA President **Lydia Ozuna, TRMC** (*far right*), city clerk, Wichita Falls, administered the oaths of office.

thank
you

to the

*Lone Star
Chapter*

*North Texas
Chapter*

*West Texas
Chapter*

for your
generous donations
to TMCCP
scholarship funds

TMCA Chapter News

NORTH TEXAS MUNICIPAL CLERKS ASSOCIATION CHAPTER

By Ashley Mitchell, TRMC

At the September 12 NTMCA meeting in Irving, TMCA President Lydia Ozuna, TRMC, city clerk, Wichita Falls, spoke to us about her year as president. Twenty-six members were in attendance. Marty Hendrix, TRMC, city secretary, Fort Worth, presented Linda Rhodes, TRMC, city secretary, Lake Worth, with the Alyce Deering Scholarship. Family members of Alyce were in attendance and wanted to thank everyone who has donated to the scholarship fund. The chapter also approved its 2007-2008 budget and slate of officers.

We met on October 17 in Fort Worth, with 21 members present. Carrollton City Manager Leonard Martin gave a brief



2007-2008 NTMCA Chapter President **Ashley Mitchell, TRMC** (left), city secretary, Carrollton, with 2006-2007 President **Susie Quinn, TRMC**, city secretary, Rowlett.

presentation on the Public Employee Benefits Alliance (PEBA) and the cost savings that city could have by joining this alliance.

The following were sworn in as the 2007-2008 NTMCA Officers: President Ashley Mitchell, TRMC, city secretary, Carrollton; Vice President Codi Delcambre, TRMC, town secretary, Argyle; Treasurer Linda Rhodes, TRMC, city secretary, Lake Worth; Secretary Shelly Doty, TRMC, city secretary, Cleburne; and Historian Kathleen Wedell, TRMC, city secretary, Aledo.

In November, NTMCA will be meeting in Irving. Ron Hollifield of the North Texas Municipal Alliance will give a presentation on generational differences. ★



2007-2008 NTMCA Chapter President **Ashley Mitchell, TRMC** (far right), city secretary, Carrollton, administers the oath of office to the 2007-2008 officers: Historian **Kathleen Wedell, TRMC**, city secretary, Aledo; Secretary **Shelly Doty, TRMC**, city secretary, Cleburne; Treasurer **Linda Rhodes, TRMC**, city secretary, Lake Worth; and Vice President **Codi Delcambre, TRMC**, town secretary, Argyle.

TMCA Chapter News

PANHANDLE CHAPTER

by Suzanne Finch, TRMC

The Panhandle Chapter met August 16 and October 18th at the Amarillo Club for their bimonthly meetings. Connie McKiernan, city secretary, Panhandle, presided over the meetings.

The August 16 program was presented by Kirk Franklin of Franklin Legal Publishing, and covered ordinance codification, legal reviews and other related services. Members who attended were: Frances Childers, city secretary, Dalhart; Chapter Historian Janice Henson, TRMC, city secretary, Perryton; Terri Johnson, TRMC, city manager/city secretary, Friona; Chapter Secretary/Records Retention Officer Suzanne Finch, TRMC, city secretary, Hereford; Chapter President Connie McKiernan, city secretary, Panhandle; Kayla McLennan, city secretary, Gruver; Gretchen Mercer, city secretary, Canyon; Chapter Treasurer Carolee Nance, city secretary, Fritch; Kim Rehkopf, city secretary, Dumas; Nelwyn Ward, city secretary, Memphis; and guest Macy McLennan (daughter of Kayla McLennan).

At the October 18 meeting, Chapter Historian Janice Henson

presented the slate of officers for the 2008-2009 term. President McKiernan noted the new officers would be installed during the December meeting. Canyon Fire Chief Mike Kelley gave a very informative program on their Fire School. Chief Kelley discussed common causes for fires and ways to prevent them. Members in attendance were: Frances Childers, city secretary, Dalhart; Donna DeRight, city secretary, Amarillo; Chapter Secretary Suzanne Finch, TRMC, city secretary, Hereford; Cheryl Gibson-Salgado, TRMC, city secretary, Spearman; Chapter Historian Janice Henson, TRMC, city secretary, Perryton; Mary Sue Lyles, city secretary, Groom; Chapter President Connie McKiernan, city secretary, Panhandle; Gretchen Mercer, city secretary, Canyon; Chapter Treasurer Carolee Nance, city secretary, Fritch; and Nelwyn Ward, city secretary, Memphis.

The chapter is scheduled to meet again December 13 at 11:30 a.m. at the Amarillo Club, in Amarillo. The program will be the installation of officers and a Christmas Gift Exchange. ★

PINEYWOODS CHAPTER

By Cinda Garner



The Pineywoods Chapter held their quarterly meeting/annual banquet on October 19 at Ralph & Kacoo's in Lufkin. Eighteen were in attendance, including a guest.

The guest speaker for the banquet was Tyler County Judge Jacques Blanchette. The chapter presented the Pineywoods Chapter Scholarship to Terre Noble, TRMC, city secretary, Center. Cinda Garner, city secretary, San Augustine, was recognized as our 2007 Pineywoods Chapter municipal clerk of the year. The chapter also held a silent auction to raise funds for our local scholarship.

Our next meeting will be held January 16, 2008, and hosted by the City of Nacogdoches. ★

Top: Pineywoods Chapter President **Carrie Edwards** (right), city secretary, Colmesneil, presents the municipal clerk of the year award to **Cinda Garner**, city secretary, San Augustine.

Above: **Cinda Garner** (right), city secretary, San Augustine, presents the chapter scholarship to **Terre Noble**, TRMC, city secretary, Center.

TMCA Chapter News

SALT GRASS CHAPTER

By Missy Bunch, TRMC

The Salt Grass Chapter held their monthly meeting October 17, in Houston at Joe’s Crab Shack. Past TMCA President Patrice Fogarty, TRMC, city secretary, Missouri City; gave a presentation on the benefits of TMCCP and TMCA, which included topics such as education, scholarships, volunteering for various committees, and the benefits of networking opportunities. She encouraged all to apply for the numerous scholarships. Those present gave very positive testimony of previous experiences in completing homework and the taking of tests associated with the Certification Program.

Salt Grass Chapter members extended congratulations to Pauline Small, TRMC, city secretary, Webster, for her recent recognition as Texas Municipal Clerk of the Year. Pauline had been presented with a token of appreciation from the chapter at the TMCA Annual Banquet held in Fredericksburg.

Members present were: Missy Bunch, TRMC, city secretary, Katy; LaKeisha Cannon-Scott, city secretary, Jersey Village; Tracy Dutton, TRMC, city clerk, Bellaire; Patrice Fogarty, TRMC, city secretary, Missouri City; Olga G.



Patrice Fogarty, TRMC, city secretary, Missouri City, at the Salt Grass Chapter’s October meeting.

Garza, city secretary, Southside Place; Martha Gillett, TRMC, city secretary, LaPorte; Michele Glaser, TRMC, city secretary, Seabrook; Sharon Harris, TRMC, assistant city secretary, LaPorte; Claudia Harrison, city secretary, Brookshire; Kay Holloway, TRMC, city secretary, West University; Kelly Johnson, city secretary, Hedwig Village; Thelma A. Lenz, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Missouri City; Sonja Palermo, assistant city secretary, Hedwig Village; Stacey Pilkinton, city secretary, Taylor Lake Village; and Yulonda Richard Small, administrative assistant, Brookshire. ★

TMCCP Seminar Calendar

ELECTION LAW SEMINAR • register now!

January 30-February 1, 2008, Austin
 TMCCP enrollees will receive Course 4 seminar credit

MUNICIPAL FINANCE SEMINAR

April 10-11, 2008, Irving
 Speaker: Lewis McLain
 TMCCP enrollees will receive Course 3 seminar credit

MUNICIPAL PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT SEMINAR

June 12-13, 2008, Nassau Bay
 Speaker: Abraham Benavides
 TMCCP enrollees will receive Course 1 or 2 sem. credit

OPEN MEETINGS/OPEN RECORDS SEMINAR

August 7-8, 2008, Tyler
 Speaker: Marty Hendrix, TRMC
 TMCCP enrollees will receive Course 1 seminar credit

GRADUATE INSTITUTE SEMINAR

October 2-3, 2008, Dallas
 Speaker: Jeff Crilley
 TMCCP enrollees will receive Course 4 seminar credit

ELECTION LAW SEMINAR

Monday, January 12, 7:00 p.m.—**Wednesday**,
 January 14, 11:00 a.m., 2009, **Irving**
 TMCCP enrollees will receive Course 4 seminar credit

TMCA Chapter News

SOUTH PLAINS CHAPTER

By Maria Hatchett, TRMC

The South Plains Chapter hosted a Notary Training Seminar on September 14 at the Lubbock Garden & Arts Center in Lubbock.

The law firm of Underwood, Wilson, Berry, Stein & Johnson, P.C. of Amarillo, Texas, presented the training session. Guest speakers were Slater Elza, attorney at law, and Joel Griffith, law clerk, Underwood Law Firm. Lunch was catered by Honey Child’s Catering of Lubbock.

Members and guests attending the seminar were: JoAnn Beard, city secretary, Smyer; Mary Brown, deputy city secretary, Ransom Canyon; Dawna Campos, Friona; Zanea Carpenter, TRMC, utility billing supervisor, Muleshoe; Toni Chrestman, TRMC, city secretary, Slaton; Rachel Douglas, Friona; LeAnn

Gallman, TRMC, city secretary, Muleshoe; Maria Hatchett, TRMC, city secretary, Lamesa; Vallarie Jones, city secretary, Jayton; Vickie Kelley, city secretary, Earth; Karen Lawson, TRMC, city secretary, Floydada; Angie Lopez, Petersburg; Glenda Mayfield, Spur; Pam Mercado, Friona; Jane McDaniel, Lubbock; Pam Rowe, TRMC, city secretary, Plains; Bonnie Scaff, TRMC, city secretary, Bovina; Jody Taylor, city secretary, Dickens; Belinda Terrell, city secretary, Whiteface; Susie Williamson, TRMC, city secretary/administrator, Shallowater; and Toni Wilson, TRMC, city secretary, Sundown.

The South Plains Chapter met on September 19 at the Cattle Baron Steak & Seafood Restaurant in Lubbock. The meeting was hosted by JoAnn Beard, city secretary, Smyer.



The South Plains Chapter at their Notary Training Seminar in September in Lubbock.

TMCA Chapter News

SOUTH PLAINS CHAPTER, CONTINUED

Vice President LeAnn Gallman, TRMC, city secretary, Muleshoe, called the meeting to order and welcomed our members and guests. JoAnn Beard introduced Kirk Franklin, president of Franklin Legal Publishing, and he presented a short overview of the importance of codification of city ordinances.

In addition to other business, there was a motion by Sharon Trumble to donate a \$50 Visa Gift card as a door prize for the TMCA Graduate Institute Seminar. The motion was seconded by Belinda Terrell, and the motion carried.



The South Plains Chapter at their September 19 meeting in Lubbock.

South Plains Chapter retirees were recognized: Cynthia Trower, city secretary, Farwell; Wilma Williams, city secretary, Denver City; and Chris Wade, TRMC, city secretary, Levelland. Chris Wade was presented with a fleece throw blanket monogrammed with the emblems representing TMCCP and the South Plains Chapter.

The next meeting was set for December 19. Toni Chrestman and Sharon Kerby of the City of Slaton will host.

Members and guests attending the meeting were: JoAnn Beard, city secretary, Smyer; Mary Jo Collins, TRMC, city secretary/assistant city manager, TRMC, Brownfield; Tommy Combs, deputy city secretary, Lubbock; Gayla Cowan, city secretary, Amherst; LeAnn Gallman, TRMC, city secretary, Muleshoe; Linda Hart,

Lubbock; Maria Hatchett, TRMC, city secretary, Lamesa; Vickie Kelley, city secretary, Earth; Karen Lawson, TRMC, city secretary, Floydada; Sylvia Martinez, TRMC, utility billing clerk, Plains; Patricia Phipps, TRMC,

city secretary, Friona; Jeannie Rogers, billing director, Tulia; Pam Rowe, TRMC, city secretary, Plains; Belinda Terrell, city secretary, Whiteface; Sharon Trumble, city secretary, New Deal; Chris Wade, TRMC, city secretary (ret.), Levelland; Deana Watson, TRMC, city secretary, Post; Lana Webb, cashier/clerk, Brownfield; Cynthia Williams, TRMC, assistant city secretary, Post; and Susie Williamson, TRMC, city secretary/administrator, Shallowater. ★

WEST TEXAS CHAPTER

By Evelyn Ammons

The West Texas Chapter met at the Dora Roberts Community Center in Big Spring on August 22, and was welcomed by Big Spring City Manager Gary Fuqua. President Laura Barragan, TRMC, deputy city secretary, Van Horn, called the meeting to order. Secretary/Treasurer Tonya Todd, TRMC, city secretary, Wink, completed the roll call and recorded ten members and three guests present.

Members and guests present were: Norma Aguilar, TRMC, city secretary, Odessa; Evelyn Ammons, city secretary, Big Lake; Laura Barragan, TRMC, assistant city secretary, Van Horn; Crissy Barraza, city secretary, Pecos; Becky Brewster, TRMC, city secretary, Van Horn; Tami Davis, assistant city secretary, Big Spring; Karen Hornsey, city secretary, Crane; Tonya Todd, TRMC, city secretary,

The West Texas Chapter at their October meeting in Odessa.



TMCA Chapter News

WEST TEXAS CHAPTER, CONTINUED

Wink; Peggy Walker, city secretary, Big Springs; and Lou Ann Watson, city secretary, McCamey. Our guests were Gary Fuqua and Linda Sjogren of Big Springs, and Sherry Wilson of Big Lake.

Members and guests enjoyed a catered lunch by a local chef. Linda Sjogren, city attorney, Big Springs, gave a special program on the latest legislative updates. During the regular business meeting, educational opportunities were discussed.

The chapter met at Big Daddy's Restaurant in Odessa on October 23 for our fourth quarterly meeting. President Laura Barragan, TRMC, assistant city secretary, Van Horn, called the meeting to order and welcomed our very special guest, TMCA President Lydia Ozuna, TRMC, city clerk, Wichita Falls. Tonya Todd, TRMC, city secretary, Wink, called roll call with sixteen members present.

Members present were: Norma Aguilar, TRMC, city secretary, Odessa; Reporter/Historian Evelyn Ammons, city secretary, Big Lake; President Laura Barragan, TRMC, assistant city secretary, Van Horn; Crissy Barraza, city secretary, Pecos; Becky Brewster, TRMC, city secretary, Van Horn; Vice President Tami Davis,

assistant city secretary, Big Spring; Lesa Gamble, administrative assistant, Big Spring; LaQuetta Harris, city secretary, Iraan; Karen Hornsey, city secretary, Crane; Renee Lee, assistant city secretary, Rankin; Lorena Marquez, city secretary, Monahans; Gloria Saenz, city secretary, Kermit; Anita Sparks, city secretary, Rankin; Secretary/Treasurer Tonya Todd, TRMC, city secretary, Wink; Peggy Walker, city secretary, Big Springs; and LouAnn Watson, city secretary, McCamey.

Lydia Ozuna, TRMC, was the guest speaker. President Ozuna spoke of her travels to all the chapters across the state and how much she enjoyed meeting all the members in each area. She talked of the TMCCP Graduate Institute held recently in Fredericksburg, and the outstanding attendance. Lydia shared the importance of becoming a Texas Registered Municipal Clerk, and passed out information to each member present.

The next meeting of the West Texas Chapter will be held during the Election Seminar in January at the Hyatt Regency LaVista Restaurant on Thursday, January 31, 2008, at 7:00 a.m. ★



Above: The West Texas Chapter at their October meeting in Odessa.



Below: At the chapter meeting in Big Spring.



Above and below: The West Texas Chapter at their August meeting in Big Spring.



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