



# News and Tidbits

## July 2015

### President's Message:



Hello all! I hope that everyone has some fabulous summer trips scheduled or that everyone is able to find some time to relax and rejuvenate!

Thank you to Kim Sutter and Lindsay Wells, both of Euless, for hosting our annual awards luncheon. The Texas Star is always a fabulous venue for us and we had a great time, with some amazing food. Mayor Linda Martin welcomed our group to Euless and she was able to spend some time mingling with our attendees, which was so nice.



**Mayor Linda Martin welcoming Luncheon Participants**

Congratulations to Holly Fimbres (Trophy Club), Diane Rasor (Newark) and Amy Shelley (Colleyville) who were awarded 2015 Alyce Deering scholarships. We were so thrilled to be able to award three scholarships this year!

We have such a strong Chapter and we are all so dedicated to supporting one another in the pursuit of empowerment and education. Our jobs are demanding and I know we also are putting so much into our work, as well as finding time to be at home with our families.

On top of all of our work and home obligations, our Committee members find the time to contribute to our Chapter in a meaningful way. Our Chapter would not exist without the hard work and contributions of our Committee members.

The Committee members that were recognized at our awards luncheon were as follows:

**Holiday Celebration Committee 2014:** Linda Rhodes, Chair (Lake Worth), Norma Zenk (Azle), Asucena Garcia (Decatur); Jessica McEachern (Bridgeport). **Alyce Deering Scholarship Committee:** Alicia Richardson, Chair (North Richland Hills); Amy Arnold (White Settlement); Jeannie Kenyon (Arlington); Traci Henderson (Southlake). **Audit Committee:** Mary Kayser, Chair (Fort Worth); Julie Heinze (Lewisville). **Bylaws Committee:**

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### Upcoming Meetings

<b>July 15</b>	Arlington
<b>August 12 *</b>	Richardson
<b>September 16</b>	Haltom City
<b>October - TBD</b>	TBD
<b>November - TBD</b>	TBD

\* Send in your questions before July 31st.. See 'August Meeting' Article in bottom left of this newsletter.

**Congratulations  
Diane Callahan**

Ron Gonzales, Chair (Fort Worth); Jennifer Phillips (Irving); Zolaina Parker (Watauga). **Membership Committee:** Michael Wells, Chair (Bedford); Amanda Jacobs (Bedford); Zolaina Parker (Watauga). **Legislative Committee:** Kim Sutter, Chair (Euless); Diane Rasor (Newark); Theresa Scott (Flower Mound). **Municipal Clerk of the Year Committee:** Kim Sutter, Chair (Euless); Aimee Nemer (Richardson). **Nominating Committee:** Diane Cockrell, Chair (Decatur); Aimee Nemer (Richardson). **Professional Seminar Committee:** Norma Zenk, Chair (Azle); Tara Brooks (Grapevine); Krystle Nelinson (Carrollton). **Technology/Communications Committee:** Martha Garcia, Chair (Arlington); Julie Arrington (Pantego). **Ad Hoc Committee:** Diane Cockrell (Decatur); Alicia Richardson (North Richland Hills); Kim Sutter (Euless).

The 2015-2016 Slate of Officers was presented and will be voted into office at the August meeting. The proposed officers are: Mary Supino, President; Carol Borges, Vice-President; Sheila Morales, Treasurer; Amy Shelley, Secretary; and Laura Bell, Historian. Please show your support for our Chapter by volunteering to serve on a Committee this upcoming year. Please complete an [application](#) and return to me as soon as possible: [Mary.Supino@arlingtontx.gov](mailto:Mary.Supino@arlingtontx.gov).

Again, thank you all for everything that you've put into this Chapter! Looking forward to seeing you in Arlington!



June 2015 Awards Luncheon Attendees  
Euless, Texas

Mary Supino, President

### Alyce Deering Scholarship Winners

We are pleased to announce the recipients of the 2015 Alyce Deering Scholarships -- **Diane Rasor**, City of Newark; **Holly Fimbres**, Town of Trophy Club; and **Amy Shelley**, City of Colleyville. Our recipients were recognized at the June NTMCA Awards Luncheon.



Diane Callahan after receiving the NTMCA Clerk of the Year Award

**Diane Callahan** (Highland Village) selected as the NTMCA Clerk of the Year. Diane is currently serving as Vice-President of the NTMCA Board. She has served on many NTMCA committees, including chair of the Audit Committee. Diane is and always has been a dedicated and supportive member of the NTMCA and is always willing to be a resource to other clerks. She has a positive attitude and truly loves her work. Please take the time to congratulate Diane on this awesome achievement.

Submitted by  
Kim Sutter, Euless

Congratulations  
Art Comacho





**Diane Rasor - 2015 Alyce Deering Scholarship Recipient**



**Holly Fimbres - 2015 Alyce Deering Scholarship Recipient**



**Amy Shelley - 2015 Alyce Deering Scholarship Recipient**

We were really excited to be able to give out 3 scholarships this year! We encourage all of you to consider applying for these annual scholarships. We hope that every active member of our Chapter will take advantage of the tools in your toolbox to assist you in your professional development.

I'd like to thank **Traci Riggs** (Southlake) and **Jeanine Kenyon** (Arlington) for serving on the Committee this year. Serving on this Committee is truly a pleasure. If we don't market our profession no one will. Education, education, education!

**Art Comacho after being selected as the NTMCA Nominee for Clerk of the Year**

**Art Camacho** (Haltom City) selected as the NTMCA Nominee for Clerk of the Year. Art is currently serving as the Immediate Past-President of the Texas Municipal Clerks Association as completed a very successful and memorable term as President. He has served on the Board since 2006. In addition, Art is an active member of the NTMCA and has given countless volunteer hours to the Association by serving on a number of committees throughout the years. Art is a friend to everyone he meets and gives willingly of his time to assist his fellow clerks - personally and professionally. Please take the time to congratulate Art on receiving this recognition from his peers and we hope that you will be present in October when the TMCA Clerk of the Year is announced at the annual banquet in Fort Worth. Good Luck Art!

Submitted by  
Kim Sutter, Euless

**Congratulations  
Mary Kayser**

NTMCA wants to congratulate Ft. Worth City Secretary **Mary Kayser** on her election as Vice President of IIMC at the IIMC 69th Annual Conference held in May in Hartford, CT.

Mary, who has been a member of IIMC for 17 years, completed her term as IIMC Region IV Director in 2014. We are honored to have Mary as an active member of our NTMCA Chapter.

**News to share...**

According to Kim Sutter, she is the "proud grandmother to an absolutely handsome, precious little boy".

Submitted by  
Alicia Richardson, Chair

## Legislative Update

The 84th Texas Legislative session has come to an end with relatively low fanfare. Despite the filing of many bills to limit local control it appears that cities dodged a few unfavorable bullets, including revenue caps, limits on issuance of debt, and home rule annexation authority.

As reported by TML, only 20.5 percent of the bills filed were approved.

TML's recap the session can be found by visiting the following link: <http://www.tml.org/p/LU2015-23.pdf>

<b>Total Bills Year Introduced*</b>	<b>Total Bills Passed</b>	<b>City- Related Bills Introduced</b>	<b>City- Related BillsPassed</b>
2013 6,061	1,437	1,700+	220+
2015 6,476	1,329	1,600+	220+

I have highlighted a few bills that passed that you should be aware of!

**H.B. 484 (Capriglione/Hancock)** - Candidate Eligibility: provides, among other things, that for an individual to be an eligible candidate for city office and qualify for the office, the individual must be a registered voter in the territory from which the office is elected for six months preceding the regular filing deadline for a candidate's application for a place on the ballot. (Effective September 1, 2015.)

**H.B. 2354 (Farney/Schwertner)** - Uniform Election Date: changes the May uniform election date from the second Saturday in May to the first Saturday in May. (Effective September 1, 2015.)

**S.B. 733 (Fraser/Workman)** - Uniform Election Date: authorizes a city council that holds its general election on the May uniform election date to take action to change the date of its general election to the November uniform election date, provided the city acts to do so not later than December 31, 2016. (Effective immediately.)

### Open Government

**H.B. 283 (Fallon/Creighton)** - Recording of Meetings: provides that: (1) a home-rule city with a population of 50,000 or more: (a) must make a video and audio recording of reasonable quality of each regularly scheduled open meeting that is not a work session or a special called meeting, and make available an archived copy of such recording on the Internet; (b) may make the archived recording available on an existing Internet site, which could be a publicly accessible video-sharing or social networking site; (c) must make the archived recording available on an Internet site that the city maintains, or provide a link to the archived recording; (d) must make the



**Kim Sutter (Eulesse)  
& Grandbaby Cameron**

Cameron Ryan Sutter joined her family on June 22nd at 1:46 p.m., weighing in at 9.8 ounces and 21 inches long.

Mom, dad and baby are doing well.

## TMCCP Scholarships - Still available through TMCA!

Very few people have taken advantage of the [TMCCP Seminar Registration Fee Scholarships](#) or [TMCCP Seminar Travel Stipends](#) so far this year.

If you meet the eligibility requirements, apply and let TMCA pay for your TMCCP seminar or your travel/lodging expenses for a TMCCP seminar this year!

Please apply no later than 10 business days prior to the desired seminar.

Submitted by  
Mary Supino,  
NTMCA President

## Meeting Reservations

Members we need your assistance. In order to be able to provide food for all that attend our monthly meetings, we need to know who will be attending, so please let us know your intentions by the RSVP

archived recording available on the Internet not later than seven days after the recording was made, and maintain the archived recording on the Internet for not less than two years after the date the recording was first made available; and (e) is exempt from certain requirements described above if the archived recording cannot be made available as the result of a catastrophe or technical breakdown, after which the city must make all reasonable efforts to make the recording available in a timely manner; and (2) a home-rule city with a population of 50,000 or more may broadcast a regularly scheduled open meeting on television. (Effective January 1, 2016.)

**H.B. 685 (Sheets/Hancock)** - Production of Public Information: provides that: (1) a public information officer complies with the requirement to promptly produce public information by referring a requestor to a publically accessible website maintained by the city, if the requested information is identifiable and readily available on that website; (2) a city must, when responding by email with the website information described in (1), above, include a statement in conspicuous font indicating that the requestor may access the information by inspection or duplication or receipt through the mail as otherwise provided in the Public Information Act; and (3) a city may withhold a utility customer's confidential personal information (under Utilities Code Section 182.052) without the necessity of requesting a decision from the attorney general. (Effective September 1, 2015.)

**H.B. 2134 (Burkett/Hall)** - Public Information Requests: provides that, if a request for public information is sent by email, the request may be considered to have been withdrawn if a request from the city for clarification, discussion, or additional information is sent by email to the address from which the request was sent (or another email address provided by the requestor) and a response is not received within the period established by state law. (Effective September 1, 2015.)

**H.C.R. 96 (Hunter/Hancock)** - Internet Publication of Legal Notices: directs the speaker of the House of Representatives and the lieutenant governor to create a joint interim committee to study the issue of advertising public notices on the Internet.

Thank you.

Kim Sutter, TRMC  
City of Euless

## New Officers Slated

Introducing the **FY 2015-2016 Slate of Officers**, as announced at the June 3rd meeting in Euless:

### Mary Supino - President

Mary has served as President, Treasurer and Vice President during her board service. She is the City Secretary for the City of Arlington. Mary received her TRMC certification in January 2014 and is currently working on her first recertification. She has also served NTMCA on the Professional Seminar, Technology, and Legislative Committees.

### Carol Ann Borges - Vice President

Carol has served as Treasurer, Historian and Secretary on the board. She is the City Secretary for the City of Westworth Village. Carol received her

date. Deadlines are included in the invitation and on the meeting webpage.

The best way to take care of this is to plan to attend all of the meetings and RSVP when you receive the invite!

**Thank you for your cooperation!**  
**Mary Supino, President**

## FY 2014-2015 Board Officers

### President:

Mary Supino, Arlington  
[mary.supino@arlingtontx.gov](mailto:mary.supino@arlingtontx.gov)  
817-459-6188

### Vice-President:

Diane A. Callahan, Highland Village  
[dcallahan@highlandvillage.org](mailto:dcallahan@highlandvillage.org)  
972-899-5132

### Treasurer:

Carol Borges, Westworth Village  
[cborges@cityofwestworth.com](mailto:cborges@cityofwestworth.com)  
817-710-2526

### Secretary:

Sheila B. Morales, Copper Canyon  
[townsecretary@coppercanyon-tx.org](mailto:townsecretary@coppercanyon-tx.org)  
940-241-2677

### Historian:

Amy Shelley, Colleyville  
[ashelley@colleyville.com](mailto:ashelley@colleyville.com)  
817-503-1133

## Future Newsletters

We are always looking for topics of interest for newsletters. If there is a subject you would like to see addressed or if you would like to contribute an article, please let any of the Board members know, or submit it by e-mail to [Sheila B. Morales](mailto:Sheila.B.Morales).

## Quick Links

[NTMCA Website](#)

[FY 2015 Membership Application](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

TRMC certification in January 2015. She has also served NTMCA on the Technology and Clerk of the Year Committees.

**Sheila Morales - Treasurer**

Sheila has served as Secretary and Historian on the board. She is the Town Secretary for the Town of Copper Canyon. Sheila is currently working on her certification. She has also served NTMCA on the Clerk of the Year Committee.

**Amy Shelley - Secretary**

Amy has served as Historian on the board. She is the City Secretary for the City of Colleyville. Amy received her TRMC in January 2014 and is currently working on her first recertification. She has also served NTMCA on the Professional Seminar Committee.

**Laura Bell - Historian**

Laura will serve as Historian. She is the Deputy City Secretary for the City of Carrollton. Laura received her TRMC in 2009 and is working on her 2nd recertification. She has served on the Holiday Committee, Professional Seminar Committee and Nominating Committee.

**Submitted by Nominating Committee,  
Diane Cockrell and Aimee Nemer**

## Scholarship Fundraiser

The "Keep Calm and Clerk On" insulated tumblers are available for \$15 each.

The proceeds benefit our Chapter's Alyce Deering Scholarship Fund. The scholarship fund is one of the reasons that sets us apart from other chapters.



We know the importance of continuing our education and we support our members by providing annual scholarships to offset travel and seminar registration costs.

Don't miss your chance to support our Chapter and sport a cool insulated tumbler that markets our profession. The tumblers will be available for purchase at each Chapter meeting or by contacting Alicia Richardson at [arichardson@nrhtx.com](mailto:arichardson@nrhtx.com)

**Submitted by Alicia Richardson  
Alyce Deering Committee Chair (North Richland Hills)**

## August NTMCA Meeting - Looking for questions

Our speaker at the August 12, 2015 NTMCA Meeting in Richardson will be TABC District Licensing Supervisor Loretta Green. She will outline the application process from start to finish and address issues related to the BG requirements that have been so confusing to many of us. Now is the time to get answers to some of your specific questions when dealing with TABC applications. Loretta has asked to review our questions in advance of the meeting; therefore, in preparation for the August meeting, please

send your specific questions to Vice President Diane A. Callahan at [dcallahan@highlandvillage.org](mailto:dcallahan@highlandvillage.org) no later than July 31, 2015. Thank you.

**Diane Callahan**  
**City Secretary - Highland Village**

## Historical and Interesting Tid-Bits - Decatur

### **County Seat Established**

In 1856 the Texas Legislature established Wise County and directed that a county seat be placed within five miles of the center. Absolam Bishop, the "father" of Decatur, was charged with locating and laying out the plans. Bishop, loving the outlay of McKinney, decided to copy its plan and use it for Decatur. The city was laid out and originally named Taylorsville after Gen. Zachary Taylor. Bishop, however, did not approve of the name. He was indifferent to Gen. Taylor's Whip party affiliation and in beginning of 1858 had the name changed to Decatur after naval hero Stephen Decatur.

### **Creation of City Offices**

The first post office and school were established in 1857. The town began to flourish and in the early 1860s the first of four courthouses was erected. The late 1860's saw the creation of new stores. Ranchers and herders would come in off the Chisholm Trail to grab supplies.

### **Growth**

This time period, however, was not only a time of peaceful growth. Decatur was plagued by Indian attacks. The Deep Creek Cemetery south of town had been the final resting place for a few of those attacked. An example of these attacks comes from the depiction of Sallie Bowman's demise published in a book by Cliff D. Cates, *The Pioneer History of Wise County*. He explains how she was chased down and shot by Indians while tending to her father's herd of horses.

### **Railways**

As time went on, Decatur slowly but steadily saw an increase of traffic in the city. In 1882, the Fort Worth and Denver Railway came through Decatur. During this time period a gambling railway worker, talking about a female from Decatur, coined the phrase "Eighter from Decatur". Decatur prospered as a shipping point and market for farmers.

### **Courthouse**

In 1896, the last of the four county courthouses was built. It came at a price of \$110,000 (\$2,810,388 in today's money) and is built of solid pink granite and Vermont marble. The building is still in use today and is rated one of the best historic courthouses in the country.

### **Education**

With the continual growth of the city, in 1897, land was purchased to create Decatur Baptist College. The college was finished in 1898 and became the first 2-year college ever established in the state of Texas. This building now resides as the Wise County Museum. The college

moved to Dallas in 1965 in order to expand on 100 acres of land donated to it and by the invitation of the Dallas Baptist Association. The college soon became a four-year school, but still gets to proclaim itself the "Oldest Junior College in Texas."

### **Population**

As Fort Worth continued to grow, so did Decatur. Decatur's population slowly but steadily has risen from its 1904 tally of 1,562 to just over an estimated 6,400 (July, 2008). Despite its "low" population, Decatur flourishes because of its position in the county. Due to its placement, Decatur still attracts farmers, ranchers, oil and gas workers, vacationers, citizens from surround areas, and its own citizens in for everything from supplies to a peaceful night out on the town.

City of Decatur's Website

We are an awesome Chapter! Let's lead and be a model for our sister Chapters.