



News and Tidbits February 2014

Dear Diane,



President's Message:

Greetings, Friends - We are all knee-deep in the filing period and looking forward to Election Day on May 10. Every election is different and I hope that this election is uneventful for each of you.

We were glad to see so many of you at the January 8 meeting in Flower Mound. Special thanks to Theresa Scott for serving as our host for the January meeting. We were welcomed by Town Manager Jimmy Stathatos and enlightened and entertained by Linda Swindling, Author and Certified Speaking Professional, who shared ways to "Stop Complainers and Energy Drainers."

Linda walked us through identifying the complainer's type and provided us with strategies and tools to help stop complainers. She reminded us what complainers cost us. And she asked if "we" are ever seen as a complainer.



Each attendee received a copy of her book, compliments of the North Texas Municipal Clerks Association. This is a great tool for us to use now and in the future.



Congratulations to all those that graduated and recertified on January 16. We are so proud of you!

Graduates:

Asucena D. Garcia-
Decatur Amy Shelley-

Recertification Graduates:

Peggy Burnside, TMCCP
Kelly Edwards, Westlake

Professional Seminar

Please join us in Colleyville for our annual Professional Seminar on Wednesday, April 16th, at Colleyville Center, 5301 Riverwalk Drive, Colleyville, 76034

Guest Speakers

Lisa Coburn - "Owning Your Professional Development"
Ron Holifield - "Servant Leadership"

Supported by the following Sponsors:

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Silent Auction at Professional Seminar

We will be having a Silent Auction at our Professional Seminar in April. Like our Holiday auction, the funds raised will support the Alyce Deering scholarship fund. For this auction, we are looking for gift cards and baskets of goodies. Be creative with a basket! We would love donations from members, vendors you may know or friends you have who may have a small business to promote. Let's fill up the tables with goodies!

If you have any questions regarding Silent Auction donations, please contact a member of the committee:
Mary Kayser, Chair
Norma Zenk
Linda Cantu
Laura Bell

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Colleyville Mary Supino-
Arlington Lindsey Wells-
Eules

Ron Gonzales, Ft Worth
Susan House, Mesquite
Mary Kayser, Ft Worth
Amanda McCrory, Burleson
Lori Payne, Southlake
Miriam Sheehan, TMCCP

NTMCA needs you:

The NTMCA Board is seeking a special candidate as a Board member to step in as Historian.

With the resignation of Vice President April Hill we are short an officer. The Board proposes to move current Directors up in position and open the Historian position to application of the membership. Treasurer Mary Supino will move to the Vice President position. Secretary Shannon DePrater will move into the Treasurer position. Historian Carol Borges will move into the Secretary position.

If you are interested in the Historian position, please review the time commitment and duties as stated in the [bylaws](#) and complete the [application form](#) and return to dcockrell@decaturtx.org on or before February 7. The Board will review applications and will present the new slate of officers for approval from the membership at the February 19 membership meeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 940-393-0204.

Please be assured that the Board and Committees of our chapter are working to make our association the best it can be. Let us know if you have suggestions or concerns. We are always looking for ways to improve our meetings and service to you.

Save the Date:

Do you consider yourself an expert at avoiding disaster? At the February 19 meeting in Bridgeport mountaineer and entrepreneur Barry D. Nalls will provide tactics to circumvent disasters, show us how to ask for help, and discuss what skills you need to be "fit" for survival, and how to stay calm in the midst of chaos. Join us for this exciting lesson in controlling our emotions and situations. I will see you there!

Take care.

Clerk of the Year

The NTMCA Clerk of the Year Committee is accepting nominations for TMCA Clerk of the Year and NTMCA Clerk of the Year.

This is an opportunity for us to recognize clerks who are committed to leadership and professionalism as City Clerks.

Here are the qualifications:

NTMCA Clerk of the Year

1. A City Secretary who has been an active member of the NTMCA for at least three years;
2. Must have provided service to other Municipal Clerks on a local level where the opportunity exists;
3. Must have exhibited leadership abilities;

[Application](#)

Join Our Mailing List!

Officers

Diane Cockrell, President
Decatur
dcockrell@decaturtx.com
940-393-0204

Mary Supino, Treasurer
Arlington
Mary.Supino@arlingtontx.gov
817-459-6188

Shannon DePrater, Secretary
Cross Roads
s.deprater@crossroadstx.gov
940-365-9693

Carol Borges, Historian
Westworth Village
cborges@cityofwestworth.com
817-710-2526

Upcoming Meetings

February 19 - Bridgeport
March 19 - Cross Roads
April 16 - Colleyville - Professional Seminar
May 2014 - No Meeting (Elections)
June 11 - Lewisville
July 16 - Roanoke
August 20 - Azle
September 17 - Grapevine

Future Newsletters

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

Alyce Deering Scholarship

I am honored to chair the Alyce Deering Scholarship Committee for 2014. I was fortunate to know Alyce early in my career and she was one of my mentors. Alyce was a strong believer in education for clerks, through our state certification program and through the local chapter.

The purpose of the scholarship is to provide funds for travel and seminar registration for a TMCCP/TMCA sponsored certification program. The full summary of the program is

4. Must be a Texas Registered Municipal Clerk; and
5. Must currently be a City Secretary.

available [here](#).

TMCA Clerk of the Year

1. Must currently hold a municipal clerk position;
2. Must currently be an active member of the Texas Municipal Clerks Association, Inc., and must have been an active member for at least five years;
3. Must have provided service to other Municipal Clerks on a local level where the opportunity exists, or on a state level;
4. Must have exhibited leadership abilities;
5. Must be a Texas Registered Municipal Clerk; and
6. Must not be a prior recipient of the Municipal Clerk of the Year award.

To apply you must complete the [application](#) and provide a copy of your TMCCP transcript and a letter of commitment. The application deadline is May 1st.

Mary Kayser, Chair

Send completed [applications](#) to [Norma Zenk](#), City Secretary City of Azle.

This Month in History - Carol Borges, Historian

Based on the positive feedback I received last month, I'm encouraged to continue this 'history from your historian' article throughout the year. I hope you enjoy it.

- While the Feast of Saint Valentine dates back to the 1st century, Valentine's Day, and its romantic connotations, likely began in the 14th century with Chaucer's poetry. Valentine's Day is celebrated around the world on February 14th.
- The Boston Latin School, the first taxpayer supported (public) school in America, was established in 1635.
- In 1788, Massachusetts became the sixth state to ratify the US Constitution.
- George Washington was born in 1799, in Westmoreland County, Virginia. Washington served as Commander of the Continental Army during the American Revolution and became the 1st US President in 1789. His birthday was designated a national holiday in 1885; however, in 1971, the holiday became Presidents' Day as part of the Uniform Monday Holiday Act. Presidents' Day celebrates all US Presidents, past and present.
- Abraham Lincoln was born in 1809, in Hardin County, Kentucky. He became the 16th US President, leading the nation through the Civil War and abolishing slavery.
- American inventor Thomas Edison was born in Milan, Ohio, in 1847. Known as the "Father of Invention", Edison acquired over 1200 patents over his lifetime, including the incandescent bulb, phonograph, and movie camera.
- In 1848, the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ended the US-Mexico war. The US purchased land in eight states - California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, and Texas - for \$15M. Can you imagine what the price would be today?!
- In 1870, the 15th Amendment to the US Constitution was ratified, guaranteeing the right of citizens to vote, regardless of race, color, or previous condition of servitude. Hmm... and still equal rights had not been fully achieved until the 20th century!
- In 1910, the Boy Scouts of America, modeled after the British Boy Scouts, was founded by William Boyce in Washington, D.C.
- In 1913, the 16th Amendment to the US Constitution was ratified, granting Congress the authority to collect income taxes. Until then, customs duties (tariffs) and excise taxes were the primary sources of federal revenue.
- In 1942, the internment of Japanese Americans began after President Roosevelt issued an Executive Order requiring those living on the Pacific coast to report for relocation. Over 110,000 people shut down their businesses, sold their property, quit school, and moved inland to the relocation centers. Thankfully, such practices would not be tolerated today.
- We all know of the Pearl Harbor attack in 1941, but did you know that the US mainland was attacked in 1942? A Japanese submarine shelled an oil refinery near Santa Barbara, California, causing minor damage.
- In 1950, the 22nd Amendment to the US Constitution was ratified, limiting the president to two terms or a maximum of ten years in office.
- In 1956, 80 participants in the three month bus boycott in Montgomery, Alabama, voluntarily

gave themselves up for arrest after an ultimatum from white city leaders. The Reverend Martin Luther King and civil rights activist Rosa Parks were among those arrested. Later that year, the US Supreme Court mandated desegregation of the buses.

- Astronaut John Glenn became the first American launched into orbit in 1962, aboard the *Friendship 7* spacecraft. Glenn reached an altitude of 162 miles and completed three orbits, in a flight lasting just under five hours.
- In 1960, four African American students sat down to order coffee at a Greensboro, NC, Woolworth's store, which led to hundreds of "sit-ins" across southern states, protesting for equal rights.
- African America Muslim minister and human rights activist Malcolm X was shot and killed in 1965 while delivering a speech in New York City.
- Most of us will remember where we were in 2003 when the Space Shuttle *Columbia* broke apart in its descent over Texas and Louisiana, killing all seven crew members.

Thank you for spending a few moments with me. :) Carol

We are an awesome chapter...let's lead and be a model for our sister chapters.