



News and Tidbits

March 2014

Dear Carol,



President's Message:

Hello, Friends! I wish I could say that we all are cancelling our elections. It is a nice thought, but not likely. Hopefully, those who have elections will have no problems and the new identification requirement will be easier because of the experience gained during the Primaries.

We really appreciate Jesica McEachern for hosting our February 19th meeting. Thank you to all who traveled the distance to

Bridgeport to hear our entertaining speaker. Barry D. Nalls taught us survival techniques in the wild world of mountain climbing and coached us to evaluate risks that influence our welfare daily. Understanding, prioritizing and planning for risks can help us to devise an action plan to reduce those risks. He explained how emotions interfere in a bad situation and as CEO in our office we are expected to know everything. He added: "It is OK to say I don't know but I will find out." and Barry also explained how important it is to ask questions. In many instances we are too trusting when given information by those that we report to. When we are asked to complete a new task and our City Manager or Mayor tells us what he/she thinks we need to know regarding this project. We say "Yes, Sir or Ma'am" and rush off to complete it only to discover we don't know where to begin or we hit a stumbling block right away. Think through the project and ASK QUESTIONS. You and your city will be more successful if you can get accustomed to asking questions as you receive instruction - cut your risk.



As a Chapter we try to encourage and support each other. It is important to your well-being to sharpen your saw, strengthen your core and share your knowledge with the rest of us. At the meeting in Cross Roads on March 19th we will be discussing in round-table fashion topics that could help each of us by sharing our experiences with each other. Your attendance at the meetings helps keep our Chapter strong; it shows support for the City Secretary that hosts our meeting and gives you a chance to reinforce your knowledge by the training supplied

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Professional Seminar

Please join us in Colleyville for our annual **Professional Seminar** on Wednesday, **April 16th, at Colleyville Center**, 5301 Riverwalk Drive, Colleyville, 76034 Click [HERE](#) to Register.

Guest Speaker:

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

Sponsors:

MCCi
Franklin Legal

Silent Auction:

Similar to 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 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

Alyce Deering Scholarship

We are currently accepting applications for the 2014 Alyce Deering Scholarship.

The purpose of the scholarship is to

by speakers and the discussions with other city secretaries. Join us as often as you can.

STOP AND TAKE ACTION to continue your Enrichment Series training: the Professional Seminar Committee (Amy Shelley, Chair; Stephanie Dimas and Julie Heinze) has set new limits this year. They are offering two exceptional speakers, great food and a beautiful facility for your personal development. You owe it to yourself to make attendance a priority. [REGISTER NOW!!](#)

Membership Drive



Why do we set goals? We are all familiar with goals, whether they are personal, financial, or professional. Setting goals and using measures to ensure that we meet our objectives is what keeps propelling us

upward and onward.

So, it should be no surprise that our Board set certain benchmarks for our chapter. One of these benchmarks is to have 90 memberships for fiscal year 2013-2014. We started the race strong and we are sitting at 75 members.

If you have not renewed your membership dues, please log onto our [website](#) today and renew by hitting the PayPal button. You will be one step away from completing your membership. Your final step is to complete the 2013-2014 application form and submit it with a copy of your PayPal receipt to [Mary Supino](#). You can also complete the application form, include check, and mail to Mary Supino.

The purpose of our annual membership dues is two-fold; the revenues offset the chapter's expenditures and it is the mechanism to ensure continued education for our members. Five dollars (\$5) of the membership fee is allocated and transferred to the special projects fund. This special projects fund is designated for scholarships and other special projects approved by the membership.

I encourage each of you to reach out to the neighboring cities/towns listed below to promote our chapter and encourage their renewal.

Burleson, Corinth, Dalworthington Gardens, Granbury, Hudson Oaks, Keller, Oak Point, Rhome, Richland Hills, and Watauga.

Michael Wells (Bedford) and I will be reaching out to ten cities that are located in Region 8 and 13 to recruit new members. If you'd like to help us grow our chapter, please contact either one of us.

Submitted by Alicia Richardson (Southlake).

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.

provide funds for travel and seminar registration for a TMCCP/TMCA sponsored certification program. The full summary of the program is available [HERE](#).

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

Upcoming Meetings

March 19 - Cross Roads
April 16 - Colleyville - Professional Seminar
May - 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 [Carol Borges](#).

Quick Links

[NTMCA Website](#)
[FY 2014 - Membership Application](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Officers

President:

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The purpose of this award is to identify and recognize a fellow City Secretary from our chapter who has made significant contributions to the goals and objectives to the municipal clerk's profession, and has made a difference in your life. Please take the time to show your appreciation to a true mentor who has taken you under their wing and made you feel the importance of your position and has shown you their commitment to our clerk's community.

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

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.

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

Historian:

Carol Borges, Westworth Village

cborges@cityofwestworth.com

817-710-2526

This Month in History - Carol Borges

- In 1681, King Charles II of England granted a huge tract of land in the New World to William Penn to settle an outstanding debt. The area later became the state of Pennsylvania.
- Formal ratification of the Articles of Confederation was announced by Congress in 1781, designating Congress as the sole governing body of the new American national government, consisting of the 13 original states. The Articles remained in effect through the Revolutionary War, until 1789, when the current US Constitution was adopted.
- American soldier and politician Sam Houston was born in Rockbridge County, VA, in 1793. As a teenager he ran away and joined the Cherokee Indians who accepted him as a member of their tribe. He later served as a Congressman and Governor of Tennessee. In 1832, he became commander of the Texan army in the War for Texan Independence, defeating the larger Mexican army in 1836 at the Battle of San Jacinto. He then served as Senator and Governor of the new state of Texas but was removed in 1861 after refusing to swear allegiance to the Confederacy. Hmm... Was this adopted Texan a Union loyalist?
- In 1836, Fort Alamo fell to Mexican troops led by General Santa Anna. "Remember the Alamo" became a rallying cry for Texans who went on to defeat Santa Anna in the Battle of San Jacinto just a month later.
- In 1862, the first US paper currency was printed in \$5, \$10, and \$20 denominations.
- Boxing champion Jack Johnson was born in Galveston, Texas, in 1878. He was the first African American to win the heavyweight boxing title.
- First founded in England by William Booth, the Salvation Army was established in the United States in 1880. Today the social service organization operates in 90 countries.
- The Great Blizzard of 1888 struck the northeastern US, lasting 36 hours. Over 40 inches of snow fell in New York City, where 400 people died from the surprise storm. This year's continuous storms in the northeast are breaking all kinds of records with no end in sight.

What do you think historians will name these events?

- In 1933, newly elected President Franklin D. Roosevelt delivered the first inaugural address, attempting to restore public confidence during the Great Depression. He began with one of his famous quotes, "Let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is fear itself..." FDR's office appointments included the first woman to a Cabinet post - Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins.
- In 1961, President John F. Kennedy established the Peace Corps, an organization sending young American volunteers to developing countries to assist with health care, education, and other basic human needs. Today the organization operates in 68 countries.
- The Equal Rights Amendment was passed by Congress in 1972. Known as the ERA, the amendment prohibited discrimination on the basis of gender, stating, "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex," and that "the Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article." Although 22 of the required 38 states quickly ratified the Amendment, opposition arose over concerns that women would be subject to the draft and combat duty. The ERA eventually failed (by 3 states) to achieve ratification despite an extension of the deadline to June 1982. To this very day, only 21 states have a version of the ERA in their state constitutions. The federal law has never passed! Amazing, isn't it?!
- In 1974, seven former high-ranking officials of the Nixon White House were indicted for conspiring to obstruct the investigation into the Watergate break-in. Among those indicted were former Chief of Staff H.R. Haldeman, former top Aide John Ehrlichman, and former Attorney General John Mitchell.
- Just two weeks after the Watergate indictments, the five-month Arab oil embargo against the US was lifted. The embargo was in retaliation for American support of Israel during the Yom Kippur War of 1973 in which Egypt and Syria suffered a crushing defeat. The embargo caused long lines at gas stations as prices soared 300 percent amid shortages and a government ban on Sunday gas sales. Whether of driving age or not, I bet you can remember hour-long waits at your local "service station".
- In 1978, the Camp David Accord ended 30 years of warfare between Israel and Egypt. Prime Minister Menachem Begin of Israel and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat signed the treaty of mutual recognition and peace, fostered by US President Jimmy Carter.
- In 1979, near Harrisburg, PA, the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant accident occurred in which uranium in the reactor core overheated due to the failure of a cooling valve. A pressure relief valve then stuck causing the water level to plummet, threatening a catastrophic nuclear meltdown. The accident resulted in the release of radioactive steam into the atmosphere and created a storm of controversy over the necessity and safety of nuclear power plants. Just a teenager growing up in the northeast at the time, I remember the widespread panic over this incident!
- In 1989, the oil tanker *Exxon Valdez* ran aground in Prince William Sound off Alaska, resulting in 11 million gallons of oil leaking into the natural habitat over a stretch of 45 miles. Twenty-five years later much of the wildlife has yet to recover. In the US alone, approximately 20,000 oil spills are reported to the EPA each year. Of that number, roughly 13,000 are investigated and only about 300 require the EPA to engage in clean-up efforts. The EPA has lost voter support over the years because most people don't realize the significance of their mission. It's not all poultry and pesticides.: /
- On March 19, 2003, the United States launched an attack against Iraq to topple Dictator Saddam Hussein from power. The attack commenced with aerial strikes against military sites, followed the next day by an invasion of southern Iraq by US and British ground troops. The troops made rapid progress northward and conquered the country's capital, Baghdad, just 21 days later, ending the rule of Saddam. Sadly that part of the world is still in chaos and the US military is still active in the region. Our heartfelt thanks go to our service men and women on active and reserve duty, and to the families of our fallen heroes!

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.