



News and Tidbits

July 2013

Greetings!

President's Message



In the spirit of our wonderful organization...shalom, aloha, hola, greetings, ciao, ellohay, blessings, hello, Kóyo, xin chào!

Chapter members met in Southlake on June 19 for our annual award luncheon. At this meeting, the membership recognizes the efforts of individual members for their contribution to our Chapter. We have discussed this in the past; it is not the work of one, but the great work of many to ensure the continued success of our chapter. One contributing factor is service on committees. Each member that offers their talent and commitment to serve on a committee supports the Chapter and our profession. My heartfelt gratitude to the following committee members:

2012 Holiday Committee: Laura Bell, Chair (Carrollton); Amy Arnold (White Settlement); Martha Garcia (Arlington); and Art Camacho (Haltom City). **2013 Holiday Committee:** Aimee Nemer, Chair (Richardson); Laura Bell (Carrollton); Martha Garcia (Arlington); and Monica Solko (North Richland Hills). **Alyce Deering Scholarship Committee:** Jesica McEachern, Chair (Bridgeport); Aimee Nemer (Richardson); and Traci Riggs (Southlake). **Bylaws Committee:** Diane Callahan, Chair (Highland Village) and Ron Gonzales (Fort Worth). **Audit Committee:** Art Camacho, Chair (Haltom City) and Diane Callahan (Highland Village). **Legislative Committee:** Jesica McEachern, Chair (Bridgeport); Kim Sutter (Euless) and Mary Supino (Arlington). **Membership Committee:** Kim Sutter (Euless). **Municipal Clerk of the Year:** Kim Sutter (Euless) and Carol Borges (Westworth Village). **Nominating Committee:** Sherry Reeves, Chair (Grandview); Diane Callahan (Highland Village) and Martha Garcia (Arlington). **Professional Seminar:** Mary Supino, Chair (Arlington); Shannon DePrater (Town of Crossroads) and Laura Bell (Carrollton). **Technology/Communications Committee:** Mary Supino (Arlington) and Monica Solko (North Richland Hills).

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Officers

Alicia Richardson, President
Southlake
arichardson@ci.southlake.tx.us
817.748.8016

Diane Cockrell, Vice President
Decatur
dcockrell@decaturtx.com
940.393.0204

Julie Heinze, Treasurer
Lewisville
jheinze@cityoflewisville.com
972.219.3404

April Hill, Secretary
Roanoke
ahill@roanoketexas.com
817.491.2411

Amanda McCrory, Historian
Burleson
amccrory@burlesontx.com
817.426.9661

Upcoming Meetings

July 17, 2013 - City of Arlington



You will notice that we have a few members serving on more than one board. I applaud each committee member for dedicating their talent and time to our chapter. As a token of my appreciation, I presented each committee member with a Keep Calm and Clerk On t-shirt.

I challenge every member of our chapter to become more involved-the friendships and networking are invaluable! I know your incoming officers will appreciate your pledge to assist the chapter.

The Chapter also recognized Alyce Deering recipients, Clerk of the Year, and NTMCA nominee for 2013 TMCA Clerk of the Year. Please see articles submitted by Committee Chairs.

The chapter recognized the unselfish giving and service of city secretary Art Camacho (Haltom City). It is a pleasure for me to congratulate my close friend Art on receiving NTMCA's nominee for the 2013 Texas Municipal Clerks Association (TMCA) Clerk of the Year. Art has been such an inspiration to many of his colleagues and I know for one...that I am happy to have been blessed with his friendship. Art is poised to take the helm as incoming president of TMCA. So hear me when I say...hold on, it is going to be a fun ride!

At this meeting, the membership approved the following business items:

- * Meeting minutes - April 17, 2013
- * Monthly treasurer reports - April and May 2013

In closing, I am ever grateful for the honor of being selected as the 2013 Municipal Clerk of the Year. As I have mentioned before, it takes the effort of all to keep this chapter a success and model for other organizations. So let's not get tired of doing what is good. Remember...our profession is yesterday, today and tomorrow. We need to be mindful to take every opportunity to market our profession.

Blessings,
Alicia

NTMCA Clerk of the Year & NTMCA Nominee for TMCA Clerk of the Year Announced

Submitted by Kim Sutter, Chair, COY Committee

What an exciting time of year. At the June awards meeting, we recognize a few very special people among our ranks, including announcing the selection for NTMCA Clerk of the Year and the NTMCA nominee for TMCA Clerk of the Year.

First, I would like to recognize Carol Borges (Westworth Village) for serving on the committee and helping to make this year's presentations fun!

August 21, 2013 - City of Haslet

September 18, 2013 - City of Haltom City

July 17, 2013 Meeting Arlington, TX

Mastering Your Super Powers of Employee Engagement by Stephen Booher, Organizational Development Specialist, City of Arlington

In this quick session you will learn:

- The Origin Story
- The Source of the Power
- Our Weakness & Our Arch Nemesis
- Bestowing Powers on Others
- Preparing for the Challenges Ahead

You will leave with the knowledge of what it takes to become a true Employee Engagement Super Hero, just in time.

Slate of Officers

Submitted by Sherry Reeves, Chair, Nominating Committee

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce the slate of officers for the 2013-2014 NTMCA fiscal year.

Diane Cockrell -President
Diane is currently the City Secretary for Decatur. She has served as Historian, Treasurer and Vice President and served on several committees. Thank you Diane for all you do for our Chapter.

April Hill-Vice President
April is currently the City Secretary in Roanoke. April has served as Historian and Secretary for the NTMCA and on the membership committee. We are glad to have you serving as Vice President April.

Mary Supino-Treasurer
Mary will serve as Treasurer this upcoming year and is the City Secretary for Arlington. Mary has been busy serving on several committees and will graduate 2014 with her TRMC. Congratulations Mary.

Drum roll please....



Alicia Richardson (Southlake) was selected at the 2013 NTMCA Clerk of the Year. Alicia is an innovative leader who challenges others, a dedicated role model and true professional. She has been a tremendous contributor and supporter of NTMCA as she has served the members throughout the years by serving on committees and as a member of the Board. Alicia has raised the bar for what it means to be a Municipal Clerk in this day and age. Alicia is completing her term as NTMCA president, but rest assured she will continue to be a fixture in our Chapter and in our profession.



Art Camacho (Haltom City) was selected as the NTMCA nominee for the Texas Municipal Clerks Association Municipal Clerk of the Year. Art was recognized by NTMCA as the Chapter's COY in 2008. Art has been in this line of work since 1999 and began his career at the City of Ranger, before serving as the City Secretary for the City of Azle, and in 2005 was appointed to serve as the City Secretary of Haltom City. Art currently serves as the TMCA President-elect, and has previously held the offices of Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Trustee. Art is a constant in our profession. Whether we need someone to entertain us at a holiday party, some advice or direction, some door prizes, someone to serve on a committee, or just any ole thing at all ... we need only ask, and Art is front and center.



Please join me in congratulating these two very deserving individuals.

2013 NTMCA Scholarship Recipients

Please join the 2013 Scholarship Committee in congratulating the recipients of two NTMCA Alyce Deering Scholarships: Linda Rhodes, City Secretary, Lake Worth, and Laura Bell, Deputy City Secretary, Carrollton. Both dedicated municipal clerks will receive \$500 to help defray the costs associated with attending seminars required in the Texas Municipal Clerk Certification Program.

Shannon DePrater-Secretary
Shannon has served on several committees. She is currently City Secretary at Town of Cross Roads. Shannon received her TRMC in January. We look forward to having you as secretary for the NTMCA.

Angela Winkle- Historian
Angela is currently serving as City Secretary in Crowley. She completed her TRMC in 2006 and has served on several committees. We will look forward to seeing Angela with her camera.

I do look forward to seeing this slate of officers hard at work this upcoming year.

Holiday Committee Update

Your Holiday Committee has started working on plans for the 2013 Holiday Luncheon and will be getting details to you soon. If you have any suggestions on location, entertainment, or a charitable contribution, please contact

Chair Aimee Nemer, City of Richardson at aimee.nemer@cor.gov

Or you may contact any other committee member:

Mary Garcia (Arlington)

Monica Solko (N. Richland Hills)

Laura Bell (Carrollton)

Upcoming Newsletters

If there is a topic of interest or subject that you would like to see addressed in an upcoming newsletter, please let any of the Board know. If you would like to contribute an article for consideration, please submit it by e-mail to [April Hill](#).





Linda Rhodes has served as the City Secretary for the City of Lake Worth since 2002. She is diligently working on her second re-certification to maintain her Texas Registered Municipal Clerk (TRMC) designation. In her letter to the Committee, Linda stated that the educational opportunity that the Texas Municipal Clerks Association offers to municipal clerks is outstanding. I'm sure we all agree with Linda!



Laura Bell has served the City of Carrollton since 2005 and has held the position of Deputy City Secretary since 2006. She is working on her first round of re-certification along side her City Secretary, Ashley Mitchell. Laura informed the Committee that the strong education she received through the Texas Municipal Clerk Certification program helped her to become a stronger person and a better employee. Way to use the tools and knowledge delivered to soar in your job!

For those of you that are working on your first round, second round, third round, (or any round for that matter) of certification in the Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program, remember to apply for the Alyce Deering Scholarship next year. This invaluable program pays up to \$500 for travel and registration costs incurred while attending a seminar sponsored by the Texas Municipal Clerks Association.

The scholarship, named in honor of former Hurst City Secretary Alyce Deering, is funded through donations throughout the year from members and sponsors. The generosity of donations over the last few years has allowed the NTMCA to give more than one scholarship each year. Your continued support of this scholarship is greatly appreciated. If you would like to donate to the scholarship fund, please contact Julie Heinze, Treasurer, at 972.219.3404 or jheinze@cityoflewisville.com.

Legislative Committee Update

Submitted by Jesica McEachern, Chair, Legislative Committee

Is it just me or did the 83rd Regular Session of the Texas Legislature fly by? The regular session ended on May 27, 2013 with Sunday, June 16, 2013, being the last day that Governor Perry could sign or veto bills passed during the regular session. And just as the regular session of the Texas Legislature came to an end, a special session was called by Governor Perry. This special session is intended to give lawmakers an additional 30 days to pass laws.

Keep Calm & Clerk On! T-Shirts



We have a limited number of Keep Calm and Clerk On t-shirts for sale. The shirts are \$10.00 each and the proceeds from the sale of the t-shirts will benefit the

Alyce Deering Scholarship Fund. Cash or check only. If paying by check, please make it payable to North Texas Municipal Clerks Association. Available are ladies medium - XXL in light pink (displayed), dark pink, red, charcoal, and royal blue.

Get your shirt today! Contact Southlake Deputy City Secretary Traci Riggs at 817.748.8015.

According to the Texas Municipal League (TML), more than 6,000 bills or significant resolutions were introduced. Of those, almost 1,500 would have affected cities in some substantial way. However, as is common during every legislative session, approximately 1,700 bills or resolutions actually passed both the House and the Senate and were signed into law. Roughly 220 of those bills impact cities in some way. (Texas Municipal League Board of Directors, memorandum, June 21, 2013). In the 82nd Regular Legislative Session (2011), only 160 bills approved impacted cities in a direct or indirect way. This means that there are more new laws this year than in 2011 which municipal officials must pay attention to; however TML noted in a Legislative Update article on their website that the harmful effect of such city-related bills was relatively modest in this session as opposed to years past.

The NTMCA Legislative Committee is now tackling the job of reviewing the bills that affect cities and preparing information for the membership. In the mean time, you are encouraged to read the articles drafted by TML and accessible on their website (see below for links). The TML staff do a fantastic job of tracking legislation and fighting to protect cities authority. Please thank them for all they do on behalf of our cities!

TML: 83rd Texas Legislature: Back to Basics

http://www.tml.org/legis_updates/eighty-third-texas-legislature-back-to-basics

TML: Finance and Administration Bills

http://www.tml.org/legis_updates/finance-and-administration

TML: Municipal Courts Bills

http://www.tml.org/legis_updates/municipal-courts

TML: Community and Economic Development Bills

http://www.tml.org/legis_updates/community-and-economic-development

TML: Personnel Bills

http://www.tml.org/legis_updates/personnel

TML: Public Safety Bills

http://www.tml.org/legis_updates/public-safety

TML: Transportation Bills

http://www.tml.org/legis_updates/transportation

TML: Utilities and Environment Bills

http://www.tml.org/legis_updates/utilities-and-environment

Texas ASCD (n.d.), Special Session Called for Texas Legislature. Retrieved from <http://www.txascd.org/txascd-blog/43-2013-blogs/197-special-session-called-for-texas-legislature>

Texas Municipal League Board of Directors (2011), The TML Legislative

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