



News and Tidbits

September 2012

Greetings!



Two Peas in a Pod

At the September 19, 2012 meeting our Chapter recognized President Kim Sutter for her dedication in leading our flock. She has left "big shoes" to fill and I am honored to be her friend and fellow Board member. I believe Kim has ignited a spark within us all that makes us want to be a better person and municipal clerk. Our Chapter has certainly flourished under her tenure. While no longer an officer, Kim will still be busy making sure our Chapter keeps soaring and continues to be a great example to fellow Chapters. - *Alicia*

The Board would like to thank Michael Wells for hosting our meeting, which was held in their new library facility. We had an informative meeting and a lively interactive discussion regarding the Public Information Act. Our speakers Lisa D. Mares and Andrea D. Russell provided an excellent program that covered many facets of the Act.

The membership considered and approved the following business items:

- Meeting minutes - July 18 and August 15, 2012
- August 2012 monthly treasurer report
- Fiscal Year 2012-2013 budget
- \$150.00 contributions to TMCA Dorothy Byrd Scholarship Fund, TMCA Dr. Joyce Snay Scholarship Fund and NTMCA Alyce Deering Scholarship Fund

Vice President Richardson presented the [2012-2013 meeting schedule](#). The business meetings will continue to be held on Wednesday. The meetings will mainly fall on the third Wednesday of the month, with exception given to the months that have a state meeting/seminar.

Laura Bell, Carrollton, provided an update on the Holiday Committee's efforts to date. The two dates being considered for the holiday party are December 5 and December 6.

I informed the membership of the need to secure volunteers to work the TML booth in November. This year, the TML meeting will be held in Grapevine at the Gaylord Texan.

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Quick Links

[NTMCA Website](#)
[FY 2013 - Membership Application](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

FY 2012/2013 Officers

[Alicia Richardson](#), President
Southlake

817.748.8016

[Diane Cockrell](#), Vice President
Decatur

940.393.0204

[Julie Heinze](#), Treasurer
Lewisville

972.219.3404

[April Hill](#), Secretary
Roanoke

817.491.2411

[Amanda McCrory](#), Historian

Burleson

817.426.9661

Upcoming Meetings

As one of my final acts, I had the privilege of swearing in the 2012-2013 officers. In keeping with our tradition, I could not resist the shirts. - Kim



October 2012 - NO MEETING (Graduate Institute)
November 7, 2012
January 9, 2013
February 20, 2013
April 17, 2013
July 17, 2013
August 21, 2013
September 18, 2013

Pass The Book!!

Did you receive a book as a door prize at a NTMCA meeting? Did you read it? Enjoy it? Do you want to share? Bring the book back to a NTMCA meeting and we will "Pass the Book" as part of the door prize drawings.

Training Opportunities - September 24, 2012

OPEN GOVERNMENT SEMINAR

The Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas is taking their traveling symposium to develop and enhance understanding of the changing landscape of open government to North Texas, to the City of Fort Worth. This program is being co-sponsored by the Office of the Attorney General and SPJ Fort Worth Pro chapter and will address hot topics in the public information and open meetings acts. The program is directed toward the general public, government employees, elected officials and representatives of the media. For more information and easy registration [just click here](#) or visit the Event Registration section of our homepage.

*** This course has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General as meeting the requirements for open government training for public officials required by S.B. Number 286.*



NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL TRAINING CENTER
September 24, 2012

OPEN RECORDS/PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT

LAW ENFORCEMENT

9:00 A.M. - 12:00 NOON
Click [here](#) to register.

OPEN RECORDS/PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT

Tabletop Discussions

At our September meeting, we heard from Lisa D. Mares and Andrea D. Russell from Taylor, Olson, Adkins, Sralla and Elam (TOASE) covering the subject of the Public Information Act. This topic is only one of many that affect municipal clerks. If you have a certain topic that you would like the Board to focus on at a future meeting, send your idea to [Diane Cockrell](#).

As proposed and approved by the membership, the 2012/2013 budget includes an increase for speaker fees. The Board is extremely excited to bring you quality and informative speakers. Vice President Diane Cockrell has taken the challenge to provide our association with speakers and topics that will empower municipal clerks in their personal and professional life.



QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Click [here](#) to register.

Get your answers from the source...Office of the Attorney
General State of Texas

Do you know the rights of the requester?
Do you know the responsibilities of governmental bodies?
Do you know the procedures to obtain information?

Learn the answers to these questions and more in this class.

Show Off Your "Digs" - Host a Monthly Meeting

The last two years we have seen an increase in our meeting attendance. We believe the rotating meeting site has made it easier for cities/towns to attend. We would love to come to your city/town to network and conduct our business meeting. You ask...what does being a host city entail? That is easy...

- Location for approximately 35-40 people;
- Arrange a caterer and coordinate with Chapter Secretary to provide accurate count and Chapter Treasurer to keep within budget.

We are not a hard group to please. On the contrary, we are a party in a box! We'd love to pop on over to your stomping grounds for a meeting. Below is a listing of dates, excluding months that are special events (holiday party, professional seminar, annual awards) and months that conflict with state meetings and the election.

- November 7, 2012
- January 9, 2013
- February 20, 2013
- April 17, 2013
- July 17, 2013
- August 21, 2013
- September 18, 2013

If you are interested in hosting one of our meetings, please contact [Alicia Richardson](#) or 817.748.8016.

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 [Julie Heinze](#).

If you know or are familiar with a speaker that would benefit our Chapter, please contact [Diane Cockrell](#).

TML Volunteer Opportunities



As you know, TML will hold their annual conference and exhibition in Grapevine

November 13-16 at the Gaylord Texan in Grapevine. Each year the TMCA reserves booth space so that we can promote TMCA to the many visitors of this well-attended event. As chair of the booth committee, it is my responsibility to secure volunteers to work the booth. Most shifts are set are for a two hour time period with the exception of a couple of timeslots. Even if you are not attending the conference, you can still volunteer to work the booth. [Attached is volunteer schedule.](#) Please review and sign up to volunteer today!

Please contact [Kim Sutter](#) if you have any questions.

Network/Social

We know how important networking is in our profession. We would like to offer you the opportunity to network and socialize with your peers. While the business meeting begins at 11:30 a.m., registration will open at 11:00 a.m., which will allow thirty (30) minutes prior to the meeting for networking. We hope this new meeting outline will allow time for clerks to register and most importantly network. Your board will keep things moving along to ensure business meetings begin on time to allow sufficient time for our featured speakers.

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



Try it FREE today.