



# News and Tidbits October 2013

Dear Diane,

## In This Issue

### President's Message

#### Thanks to a Dynamic Leader



At the September 18, 2013 meeting President Alicia Richardson was recognized for her outstanding service and innovative leadership over the past year. She initiated a strategic plan for the future of our Chapter and she was a driving force for many beneficial changes. She has challenged each of us to grow professionally. Even though she will no longer be our president, she will continue to be the NTMCA Ninja. -- Diane

#### September Meeting Summary

The Board would like to thank Art Camacho for hosting our meeting at the Diamond Oaks Country Club and for securing a speaker donation from TOASE for our chapter.



Guest speaker Dr. Amy Holt's presentation taught us the importance of asking questions. Great leaders routinely ask questions that coach their people toward creativity and innovation.

Nurturing a questioning culture also benefits the individual, Dr. Holt said, creating greater self-confidence, increased motivation and improved understanding of organizational constraints and opportunities. Individuals can also gain better listening and communication skills, become more flexible and develop a stronger commitment to learning and development. Dr. Holt stressed that it is important to know what type of questions to ask and how to ask them, and she provided examples of unhelpful questions, great questions, and explained how to ask the right questions effectively. Other highlights of her presentation included tips for questions to build relationships, questions to build a team, questions to help solve conflict, questions for planning and setting objectives, and questions to develop vision and values. In conclusion, Dr. Holt explained, everyone has valuable ideas and experience that they can add to an organization. Or, as she put it, "Sometimes you just have to ask."

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## Quick Links

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

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

## Officers

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## Upcoming Meetings

October-No Meeting  
(Graduate Institute/TML)

The membership approved the following business items:

- \* August 21, 2013 meeting minutes
- \* August 2013 treasurer report
- \* Amendments to bylaws
- \* Transferred \$1762.07 from professional seminar fund to special project fund
- \* Transfer of \$430.00 from membership fund to special project fund
- \* Fiscal Year 2013-2014 budget
- \* Contributions of \$150.00 to each of the following scholarship funds: TMCA Dorothy Byrd, TMCA Dr. Joyce Snay and NTMCA Alyce Deering
- \* Appointment of Carol Borges, Westworth Village as historian to fulfill vacancy created by resignation

Vice President Cockrell presented the 2013-2014 meeting schedule. The meetings will continue to be held on the third Wednesday of the month with a few alternate dates to accommodate conflicting schedules or meetings.



## MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL - TIME IS HERE!

Our membership drive has officially begun and the membership committee is looking for you. Have you seen the NTMCA Chapter [lapel pins](#)? You too can have your own lapel pin... simply by renewing your membership.

Be one of the first members to show off your NTMCA spirit...renew today! [Membership forms](#) are available on our [website](#) and with Paypal you can renew your membership with a few clicks. Completed applications, whether paying by check or Paypal shall be mailed to Treasurer [Mary Supino](#). Upon renewal of your membership, your NTMCA lapel pin can either be mailed to you or made available at the next NTMCA meeting.

**A REMINDER of non-member fee** - beginning at the November 13th meeting in Crowley if your membership is not current for the 2013-2014 year the non-member fee for the luncheon/business meeting is \$25.00. This new requirement has been discussed at several meetings this year and announced in the newsletter. The savings will encourage timely renewals during our first quarter membership drive. The Chapter dues are vital in supporting the programs, business meetings and operational functions of our chapter. If you prefer, you can pay for your membership at the November meeting. The Board thanks you for your support through this transition.

## NTMCA Committee Opportunity Help Keep Our Chapter Strong

If you have served on a committee in the past, you realize that it's a great way to get to know other clerks (and that can

November 13, 2013 Crowley  
December 4, 2013 Fort Worth  
January 8, 2014 Flower Mound  
February 19, 2013 Host City Needed  
March 19, 2013 Host City Needed\*\*  
April 16, 2013 Host City Needed\*\*  
May 2014 No Meeting (Elections)  
June 11, 2014 Host City Needed  
July 16, 2014 Host City Needed  
August 20, 2014 Host City Needed  
September 17, 2014 Host City Needed  
\*\* Professional Seminar Date to be Determined

## Looking For Host Cities

A few years ago our Chapter started rotating meeting sites to accommodate members who work in far-reaching areas and to increase our meeting attendance. Our group would love to come to your city and network. It is like hosting a dinner party, but you don't have to cook -- just find a caterer, a space for about 35-40 people, and coordinate with the Chapter Secretary for an accurate count of attendees and the Chapter Treasurer to stay in budget. If you are interested, drop an email to [Diane Cockrell](#) or call 940-393-0204. We - need- you!

## Training Opportunity in Grapevine Tuesday, October 29, 2013

North Texas Regional Records Management Workshop  
Texas State Library and Archives Commission is partnering with City of Grapevine to provide this training opportunity. Training will include Introduction to Records Management and Managing Electronic Records. The fee is \$40 per person. You will be on your own for lunch. [October 22, 2013 is the registration deadline.](#)

## 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

really work to your benefit when you need direction or advice). Committees are a huge part of our service to each other, so don't be left out - volunteer to serve on one of the committees below. Complete the [Committee application](#) and email to [Diane Cockrell](#).

Alyce Derring Scholarship	Audit
Holiday Celebration (2014)	Membership/Communications
Municipal Clerk of the Year	Nominating
Professional Seminar	Technology

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](#).



### Holiday Committee Update

Members,

Be sure you've marked your calendars for December 4, 2013, from 11am-2pm for the Holiday Luncheon. The lunch will be held at the beautiful Fort Worth Botanic Gardens Restaurant. In light of the beautiful scenery at the gardens, and limited space for entertainment, the committee has determined to forgo formal entertainment and open it up for any talented clerks we might have out there! So, if you've got talent and want to share it, let us know. If we don't have any brave souls, we have some entertaining and interactive activities planned. This year's charitable contributions will go to charities from Cleburne and Granbury to assist with recovery efforts from the tornadoes earlier this year. Watch for your invitation soon!



*Submitted by Aimee Nemer, Chair  
Holiday Committee 2013  
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We are an awesome chapter...let's lead and be a model for our sister chapters.