

- 2007 New Clerk Orientation – City and Town February 2007 (see below)  
[http://www.arml.org/publications\\_city\\_town.html](http://www.arml.org/publications_city_town.html)

In addition, "Words of wisdom," so noted on the program, came from former city officials who had years of city council experience but who decided to retire or were retired by voters. Each has been president of the Arkansas Municipal League.



Dailey

"Be true to yourself," former long-time Little Rock Mayor Jim Dailey, who did not seek reelection, advised. "Know you can't please everyone."

Other jewels of good advice:

• "You can't let your ego get in the way," said former Mayor Terry Coberly of Bentonville. "You must make decisions between competing interests," she cautioned, but added, "Do what you think is right."

Coberly acknowledged that there would be negative press. However, she said, "Get to know people who cover your city beat ... always be open with the press." Another point: Be very, very aware of the FOI (Freedom of Information Act). Coberly urged participation in the Municipal League. Coberly said mayors should "surround yourself with good people ... then get out of the way."



Coberly

• Former Alderman Martin Gipson of North Little Rock urged city officials to "do your research. Read every piece of paper that crosses your desk."



Gipson

"Take care of the little guy," former Mayor Stewart Nelson of Morrilton said. Tap the knowledge of former mayors, he said, adding, they are "a wealth of information."

Recognize, he said, "being mayor is a full-time job: 24 hours a day." He said the League's *City & Town* magazine is a resource "and one of the best things the League does." He noted that he first turns to the attorney general opinions in the magazine and, he, too, encouraged city officials to participate in the Municipal League.



Nelson

Information flowed at the conference. Mayors, aldermen and other city officials collected copies of League publications and other materials which were not already in their packets, obtained identification cards with their pictures, were offered cholesterol and blood testing, questioned representatives of state agencies who staffed booths, and as a real prize in each delegate's packet, received a copy of the hefty, 28-inch thick, *Handbook for Arkansas Municipal Officials*. The book is a compilation of state laws affecting local governing.

## New city officials' orientation

The Arkansas City Clerks, Records, Treasurers Association opened its meeting the morning of the League Winter Conference to help new city officials learn about duties of their offices.



Front row, from left, Clerk/Treasurer Madlene Hancock of Trumann, Clerk/Recorder/Treasurer Janette Loaster of Lowell, Treasurer Kathy Grace of Mayflower, Clerk/Treasurer Carolyn Classe of Earle, Recorder/Treasurer Brenda Hendrix of Bauxite. Standing, from left, Clerk/Treasurer Ann Sutton of Fordyce, Recorder/Treasurer Kim Williams of Ball Shoals, Clerk/Treasurer Jane Wines of Bella Vista, Treasurer Nancy Hurley of Heber Springs, Clerk Ann Saniel of Heber Springs, Recorder/Treasurer Sandy Nash of Harrell, Clerk Kelly Thomas of Farmington, Clerk/Treasurer Carol Crump-Westergrren of Beebe and Clerk/Treasurer Stacey Pearson of Brinkley.



Front row, from left, Recorder/Treasurer Sandi Griffin of Bay, Clerk Veronica Robbins of Dyer, Clerk/Treasurer Valerie Davenport of Clarendon, Clerk/Treasurer Deane Cochran of Forrest City, Recorder/Treasurer Veva Foster of Horatio, Clerk/Treasurer Phyllis Endris of Cherokee Village. Standing, from left, Clerk Carol Phillips of Wynne, Clerk/Treasurer Kirk Mounts of Ashdown, Recorder/Treasurer Monroe Baldwin of Alida, Clerk Jean Lee of Bono, Clerk/Treasurer Mary Sullivan of Paris, Recorder/Treasurer of Paris, Recorder/Treasurer Susan Smith of South Lead Hill, Recorder Treasurer Christine Debaw of Sedgwick, Recorder Faye Moore of Higden, Recorder/Treasurer John Barclay of Ward, Clerk/Treasurer Sherry Johnston of Waldron.



Front row, from left, Mayor Sheila Sparlock of Leachville, Councilmembers Kim Love and Dometria Pitts, both of Altheimer, Lantz Harwell of Waldron and Verna Mae Newman of Cherokee Village. Standing, from left, Recorder/Treasurer Monda Hestison of Black Oak, Mayors Stanley Debaw of Sedgwick, Billy Anderson of Lake City, Donald (Bruce) Robinson of Altheimer, Randy Holland of Mayflower, Bob Freeman of Van Buren, and Councilmember Robert Smith of South Lead Hill and Clerk/Treasurer Sue Gurley of Lake City.



