

ACCRTA NEWS

November 2009

37th Annual Municipal Clerks Institute

University of Arkansas

The 37th Annual Municipal Clerks Institute at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville is now history. The Certification program began on Sunday afternoon, September 13th and continued through Friday morning, September 18th. Advanced Academy was Wednesday, September 16th and Thursday September 17th, followed by a meeting of the ACCRTA executive board Thursday afternoon.

Those of you who have never attended institute need to start planning now for next year if at all possible. If your city cannot afford it, scholarships are available through ACCRTA.

This is without a doubt the most important part of your education as a municipal clerk. Institute Director Kim Jones has again done an excellent job of making a very intense week of education both interesting and fun.

Thank you Kim!

IIMC Region IV Meeting San Marcos, Texas

DECEMBER 3-5, 2009

Embassy Suites San Marcos—Hotel, Spa and Conference Center

REGISTRATION: \$100 POSTMARKED NOV. 17

LATE REGISTRATION: \$115 AFTER NOV. 17

Hosted by Texas Municipal Clerks Association and the Capitol Chapter of City Clerks/Secretaries

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AML Winter Conference – January 13-15, 2010

New Clerks Orientation – January 13, 2010

District Meeting – Gould

District Meeting – Bono & Lake City



2009-2010 PRESIDENT

MARVA VERKLER - CABOT

From your incoming President..... Hello from central Arkansas. Things here in Cabot are going well as I hope each of you and your cities are. I have to tell you that I am so excited about the upcoming year. I don't have grand plans to change anything rather I would like to challenge each of you to further your educations. Yes, I know that was Patti Grey's theme as president but I think that education is so important that we need to continually strive to improve ourselves, not just for our cities, but for our own personal growth.

I can't tell you what being part of ACCRTA has done for me. When I joined, I had already been clerk-treasurer for several years and I had always thought I didn't have time to get training. I had my training by the seat of my pants and what more could I possibly learn from a bunch of other clerks! Boy.....was I wrong! I came to my first institute in 2000 and have only missed one since (because I had a terrible Mayor but that's another story). I have learned more about being a clerk than I ever thought I could learn. Every year I come away with something new. Not only do I learn something, I make new friends. Those friendships have energized me and improved my life. Just being around upbeat people who are purpose driven, who genuinely care about their jobs, their friends, their lives... well, it just makes you want to be a better person. Knowledge is key to that, if we stop learning, we stop living our lives to the fullest.

Please take the challenge to improve your education as a City Clerk, Recorder, Treasurer. Come to institute, come to the district meetings, take a part in ACCRTA and IIMC, volunteer for a committee or to be a district director. Be a part of this great organization and network of friends.

It is truly an honor to be allowed to serve you this year as President. If you need me for anything or have suggestions on things we can do that are new or to improve on what we are already doing,

please get in touch with me. You can email me at mverkler@cabotar.gov or call me at 501-605-0424. That is my direct line right to my desk.

I look forward to seeing you in June at Municipal League. Remember to sign up for committees and district directors!

Love to you all....

Marva

**2009-2010 EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE**

PRESIDENT – MARVA VERKLER

VICE PRESIDENT – SHERRI GARD

TREASURER – JOSHUA CLAUSEN

SECRETARY – JOHNNY BRIGHAM

DISTRICT DIRECTORS

ERNEST NASH, JR

JEAN LEE

LINDA SIMPSON

AND

PAST PRESIDENTS



CONGRATULATIONS

Janice Smith, clerk/treasurer/finance director of Huntsville received her plaque denoting Master Municipal Clerk status in June. Good work, Janice!

ACCRTA - SILENT AUCTION

The Silent Auction at the ARML Conference in Little Rock is quickly approaching! We hope everyone has been "silently" thinking about donating an item or two to the auction. As in the past, proceeds from the auction are used for scholarships to attend the International Conference as well as provide scholarships to attend other conferences, as funds allow. A profitable auction in January will help send some lucky clerk(s) to the 2010 IIMC Annual Conference in Reno, NV! What an experience!

We would like donated items to be new, worth a minimum of \$10.00, and of interest to both gentlemen and ladies. Please use the Silent Auction Donation Form or just write the information on any paper and send to me or send an email. It saves a little time if the donation cards can be preprinted.

If you have a friend or spouse that plans to attend the conference in Little Rock with you, please encourage them to volunteer in the silent auction area so that the Committee members will be able to attend the educational sessions.

We look forward to seeing everyone in Little Rock.

Jane Wilms, City Clerk
City of Bella Vista
P O Box 5655
Bella Vista, AR 72714

Phone: 479-876-1255
Fax: 479-876-1734
Email: jwilms@sbcglobal.net

See silent auction donation form on page 5

TASK FORCE STARTED

A task force consisting of several municipal treasurers, members of legislative audit, and municipal league staff has been formed to review municipal financial and accounting laws and recommend desired changes to the legislature for the 2011 session.

Some of the people who have been named to this task force are Mary Wiles of Highland, Sarah Roberts of Caddo Valley, Lanette Vines of Hermitage and Jane Jackson of Stuttgart.

One of our main objectives is updating the 1974 Municipal Accounting Law to allow electronic fund transfers for municipalities similar to the way Act 500 of 2009 did for counties. Technology has grown so rapidly that municipal treasurers have been struggling to balance the newer more efficient methods with the older time consuming and restrictive laws.

Our overall goal is taking advantage of the technology available to us while maintaining the security that we currently have, and making things more cost efficient.

There are several topics on our list and updates will be forthcoming as they are available.

Our next meeting is December 7th.

2009 / 2010 ACCRTA COMMITTEES

Please contact ACCRTA 2009 / 2010
President Marva Verkler
If you would like to serve on a committee

Marva Verkler, CMC
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Cabot, AR 72023

Phone: 501-843-3566 Ext 14
Fax: 501-605-0424
E-mail: mverkler@cabotar.gov

Clerk of the Year

Vice President Sherri Gard **Chair**
Barbie Curtis
Mitri Greenhill
Sarah Roberts

sgard@fortsmithar.gov

Education

Barbara Blackard **Chair**
Mary Wiles
Sandy Nash
Patti Scott-Grey
Mary Jean Sell
Immediate Past President Donna
Jones
Kim Jones - Institute Director U of A

clrksvil@cswnet.com

Fundraiser

Jane Wilms **Chair**
Sarah Roberts
Earnest Nash

jwilms@sbcglobal.net

Handbook

Mitri Greenhill **Chair**
Ruth Keith

clerk1@cebridge.net

Legislative

Diane Whitbey **Chair**
Carol Westergren
Jean Lee
Sarah Roberts

dwhitbey@northlittlerock.gov

Membership Development

Carol Westergren **Chair**
Earnest Nash

Mentor

Charlotte Goodwin **Chair**
Mary Jean Sell
Janice Smith
Mary Wiles

afclerk@ashflat-ar.org

Newsletter

Sarah Roberts **Chair**
Diane Whitbey

sarah445@suddenlinkmail.com

Nominations / Elections

Patti Scott Grey **Chair**
Barbie Curtis
Sondra Smith
Cindy Greenwood
Immediate Past President Donna
Jones

grey@txkusa.org

Scholarships

Judy Reddick **Chair**
Linda Simpson
Cindy Greenwood
Valerie Davenport

judy.reddick@paragouldcity.org

Scrapbook

Carol Westergren **Chair**

cityclerk01@beebeark.org

Website

Patti Scott-Grey **Chair**

grey@txkusa.org

SILENT AUCTION DONATION FORM



Name: _____

Municipality: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Donated Item: _____

Approximate Value: _____

Please mail this donation form by _____ to: Jane Wilms

City of Bella Vista

Or E-mail to Jane at: jwilms@sbcglobal.net

P O Box 5655

