
ACCRTA

March 2009

Northwest Arkansas District III Meeting Report

Peggy David & Jane Wilms

The District 3 meeting is now history! We had 30 city clerk and/or treasurers attend our session on Family Medical Leave, Workers' Compensation and Gangs. Eleven attendees signed up to the Personal Shopper at Coldwater Creek on Thursday evening. The ladies had a great time shopping and getting an extra discount, didn't hurt.

Our Friday morning began with a welcome from Bentonville Mayor McCaslin, Rogers Mayor Womach and Bella Vista Mayor Anderson all welcoming the attendees to NW AR. They recognized the fact that we do much work for our respective cities and were appreciative of our efforts.

Gina Kincy, the Human Resource Director of Rogers provided information relating to Family Medical Leave as well as walking us through the steps of Worker's Compensation. A lively discussion followed each topic and we all came away from the meeting learning something new.

After a noon lunch, we had a presentation on gangs by the Rogers Crime Suppression Unit. I guess the one thing we all learned was that it is hard to tell who really is a gang member because many kids imitate the signs just because they think it is "cool". We also learned how really brutal gangs can be. Definitely something we all need to be mindful of and fight against in our communities.

Everyone came away with a door prize and John Strickland of Edco Group Inc. also gave away a \$50.00 gift card. Thank you John! We also need to thank the DoubleTree Hotel and the Bentonville Covention & Visitors Bureau of the wonderful accommodations and goody bags.

We hope everyone learned a lot and enjoyed the day!

District I Meeting Agenda

The District 1 Meeting is scheduled for April 23-24 in Maumelle. Joshua has a really good meeting planned and we all need to attend.

Thursday

3:00 – 4:00 Registration City Hall

4:00 – 4:30 Welcome to Maumelle/Opening Remarks
Mayor Mike Watson – Joshua Clausen

4:30 – 6:30 Tour of Maumelle Jack Stowe

7:00 – 9:00 Dinner and Dessert
Pasta House – Mamms' Manna

Friday

6:00 – 8:30 Hot & Continental Breakfast Served at
Hotel Comfort Suites

9:00 – 9:45 The Ins and Outs of FOIA
City Attorney JaNan Davis

10:00 – 10:45 Mayor/Clerk Relations
Mayor Watson – Joshua Clausen

11:00 – 11:45 Keeping Your Community Safe
Police Chief Sam Williams

11:45 – 12:45 Lunch Beef O' Brady's

1:00 – 2:00 Laserfische—Records Management
and More Datamax—Marc House

2:15 – 3:30 Update from the Legislative Session
Representatives Ed Garner and Jane English

3:30 – 3:45 Closing Remarks Joshua Clausen

ACCRTA
DISTRICT MEETING FOR DISTRICT 1
MAUMELLE, ARKANSAS

Dates: April 23 – 24, 2009

Location: Maumelle City Hall
550 Edgewood Drive
Maumelle, AR 72113

Registration: \$25 – excluding accommodations

Please send check or money order, along with this form to:
City Clerk Joshua Clausen
550 Edgewood Drive
Maumelle, AR 72113

Name_____

Title_____

Municipality_____

Address_____

Phone & email_____

Arrangements for accommodations have been made with the Comfort Suites of Maumelle, located at 14322 Frontier Drive, Maumelle, AR, 72113, 501-851-8444. Rooms are available on a first come, first serve basis. The room breakdown is as follows:

- 9 Double bed rooms
- 13 King bed rooms – also equipped with queen size sofa bed
- 3 Jr. Suites with king beds – also equipped with queen size sofa bed

All rooms are reserved at a rate of \$67.00 per night, excluding tax and other applicable fees. To receive this rate, you must reference that you are with the City of Maumelle group.

NO ROOMS WILL BE HELD AFTER MARCH 27, 2009.

In order to properly plan for this event, I would like to have all registrations in no later than
2009.

Friday March 27,

President's note for Newsletter

We are rapidly approaching spring time and after the winter that most of you have had, I know you cannot wait! Spring is a time of new beginnings, a fresh start, and new goals to reach for. My new goal is to better organize my life, and for those of you who know me, you know that if I accomplish this, it will truly be a great feat! I am the famous list maker, I love to mark off the things that I have managed to get done, gives me a sense of happiness, I guess.

What are your goals for this spring? In meeting the "newbies" that have come on board since the New Year that attended our New Clerk's Orientation, I realize that we have a wonderful opportunity to grab hold of these folks and give them a solid foundation to build their new careers on. For those of us who have been at this awhile, I don't know if enough time ever lapses that you do not keep in the for front of your mind, what it was like when you stepped foot into you office for the first time. It is so overwhelming, you wonder if you will survive. But we do and we thrive and we look for ways to challenge our communities to be the greatest they can be.

You each one have so very much to offer, I see it every time I am around you, it's who we are and what we are all about. So reach out and latch on to someone in your surrounding area that might be going through the growing pains that holding the office of City Clerk, Recorder or Treasurer dishes out on a daily basis.

Keep in mind Joshua's District meeting in Maumelle in April (23rd and 24th to be exact) and get him a registration form sent in as soon as possible. It will be great to see you all there! I love our District meetings, and for those of you who have graciously hosted one for me this year, I want to say a very sincere thank you for the time and energy you put into these meetings, they have been so very well planned and great educational information given at them...Our time together during these two day meets are invaluable as we share our worlds with each other. You can always find someone, somewhere that has dealt with issues that you might be working on right now, and that is very comforting.

As always, it is a pleasure to serve as your President and if you ever need me for anything, I am just a phone call away... (870)584-3445, or email djones@dequeen-ar.us

Donna

NEWS FLASH!!!!

Paula Caudle, West Fork Retired Clerk/Treasurer, is now running for mayor of her fair city. The election is scheduled for April 14, so keep your eyes and ears open to see how well she does. We are all pulling for you Paula!

AMBER WOOD IS A MOM!

Chezney Kayle Wood arrived at 12:26 AM Saturday morning, March 22, 2009. She weighed in at 8 pounds 1 ounce and measured 19 ½ inches in length.

Amber is Deputy City Clerk for the City of Fayetteville.

Graham Changing Jobs

Lake Village City Clerk Lynette Graham has accepted a position in Crossett that is not government related and will be leaving Lake Village. Lynette is currently serving as ACCRTA Treasurer and until recently chaired the ARML First Class Cities Advisory Council. We will miss her bright smile and all of the things that she has done to help ACCRTA. We wish her luck in her new job.

Lockesburg Clerk Retires

Donna Gallaher, City Clerk of Lockesburg, is retiring after 32 years of service to her community. We wish her the best of everything in her new life of leisure.

ATTENTION

PLEASE READ AND HEED THE POLICY BELOW

List Serv Etiquette and Participation Policy for AMLists

- Questions and responses should be brief and to the point. Only "reply" to the entire list when it contains information that everyone can benefit from. Don't wander off-topic, don't ramble and don't post messages solely to point out other people's errors in typing or spelling.
- **IMPORTANT:** If you should find yourself wanting to reply or respond to the sender (or one person only), DO NOT use the reply feature of your e-mail program (the nature of the listserv is that it will reply to the entire list). Send messages such as "thanks for the information" or "me, too" to individuals--not to the entire list. Do this by using your e-mail application's forwarding option and typing in or cutting and pasting in the e-mail address of the individual to whom you want to respond.
- Always fill-in the subject line. The subject line is the only label you have to identify each of the messages in your mailbox. Be sure to keep it brief as most e-mail clients only show the first 20-30 characters of the subject line anyway.
- Consider the size of a file before attaching it to a response. Large files (over 500K as a rule) should be avoided and made available on request.
- If you are attempting to take attendance for a meeting directly related to the list serv, send your RSVP messages to the individual taking attendance, DO NOT reply to the entire list serv.
- Listservs should NOT be used for personal e-mail "forwards," jokes or other information not directly related to the topic of the listserv.

This list serv is for informational purposes only and, in no way, is to be construed as a public meeting of any singular governmental entity. List serv members are encouraged to become familiar with the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act and be on notice that postings herein may be construed as public in nature. Further, no user or groups of users, whether from the same municipality or not, should in any way post messages that request votes or could be construed as polling for votes.

The History of Aprons

I don't think our kids know what an apron is.

The principal use of Grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath, because she only had a few, it was easier to wash aprons than dresses and they used less material, but along with that, it served as a potholder for removing hot pans from the oven.

It was wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears.

From the chicken coop, the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven.

When company came, those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids.

And when the weather was cold, grandma wrapped it around her arms.

Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove.

Chips and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in that apron.

From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the hulls.

In the fall, the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees.

When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds.

When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out onto the porch, waved her apron, and the men knew it was time to come in from the fields to dinner.

It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that 'old-time apron' that served so many purposes.

Send this to those who would know (and love) the story about Grandma's aprons.

REMEMBER:

Grandma used to set her hot baked apple pies on the window sill to cool.

Her granddaughters set theirs on the window sill to thaw.

They would go crazy now trying to figure out how many germs were on that apron.

I don't think I ever caught anything from an apron.