

# ACCRTA NEWS



Arkansas City Clerks, Records and Treasurers Association

February 2007

## ***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE-***

A lot has happened since the last ACCRTA newsletter. We've successfully made it through the holiday season (i.e. traffic, shopping, food and more). We've seen the loss of loved ones along with serious illnesses of others. And for all of those folks, we have prayed. But alas, now is a new year, and time to pick up the pace and make 2007 the best year of our lives.

If you had a chance to attend New Clerk Orientation, January 10, 2007, then you know how well attended and successful this program has become. In our third year, we had over 85 people attend, including several mayor's and council members. A large number of new clerks as well as some of the "seasoned" clerks attended. The program included introductions from officers and board members, along with information about our association and the International Institute of Municipal Clerks Association. Charlotte Goodwin, let everyone know about our very successful mentoring program and offered her assistance to all. Patti Scott Grey, First Vice President discussed upcoming district meetings and the yearly calendar. Institute Director Kim Jones talked about the importance of attending the institute held annually in Fayetteville. Past President Paula Caudle topped it off with information on how to receive a scholarship from the association to assist with costs of attending institute. After a break, my FAVORITE CITY ATTORNEY, North Little Rock's own, Paul Suskie, provided an informative review of ordinances and resolutions, the differences between the two (an ordinance is a law and a resolution expresses intent), emergency clauses and more. We even got a chance to call the Hogs before we boarded the trolley buses to North Little Rock! North Little Rock Mayor Patrick Henry Hays welcomed the group and discussed the importance of the clerk, recorder and treasurer to the city. BBQ was provided by ACCRTA and Lindsey's Hospitality House. The group then boarded the buses and headed back to the Peabody. The afternoon sessions included a power point presentation by Diane Whitbey and Barbara Blackard, which basically reviewed agenda preparation and items to include, meeting packets and what should and should not be included in minutes. Barbara Blackard and Regina Walker followed with a power point presentation regarding financial matters. All in all, it was an informative meeting, and we got to see a lot of new faces and hopefully, made additional life-long friends! *(Special thanks to the Arkansas Municipal League and Ken Wasson, the Peabody Hotel and staff, Kim Jones, the North Little Rock City Clerk's Office, the City of North Little Rock, Central Arkansas Transit and Keith Jones, presenters and those who helped with registration, and Lindsey's Hospitality House and Donnie Lindsey).*

The next thing I will encourage you to do is attend the District II ACCRTA Meeting in Dumas. *Helping Hands Across Arkansas* is the title of Johnny Brigham's program which will include a tour of the Desha County Museum followed by (MY FAVORITE) a catfish dinner with all the fixins' provided by McClelland Engineering and Delta Supreme, and a ladies style show featuring

Dodie's Dress Shop. Friday's meeting will begin with registration and breakfast followed by a welcome from Dumas Mayor Marion S. Gill. Terry Hawkings and Agnes Ross will discuss Freedom of Information (FOI) matters. Keven Smith will talk about grants that are available to cities and towns. Lunch, will be a hoot, since the entertainment is Desha County Judge Mark McElroy. (Be sure and bring some tissues, because he will have you laughing so hard, your sides will hurt and tears will stream down your face)! Following lunch, Congressman Mike Ross will update the group and answer questions. Final remarks are scheduled for 3:00 p.m. followed by presentation of certificates. For room reservations call either the Days Inn at 870-382-4449 or Econo Lodge at 870-382-2707 (promotion code Clerk020). I believe the cost is \$60.00 for a single room. Now then, you've got the 411, so get busy and plan on going to Dumas to show our support for Johnny Brigham, CMC and to gain lots of valuable information for your city or town. *(Special thanks to McClelland Engineering, Delta Supreme, Dodie's Dress Shop, M & F Bank, Union Bank, Simmons Bank, and Judge Mark McElroy for providing meals, refreshments and entertainment.)*

In closing, I will ask you to remember our motto for **06-07...COMMUNICATION!** It's how we share information, it's how we learn, and it's how we express ourselves.

From your communicator,

Diane Whitbey, CMC  
ACCRTA President 2006-2007

## ***AML Municipal League Highlight:***

*Diane has asked that I share this note with all the clerks to let everyone know how important our meetings can be:*

Diane:

I just want to say thank you for all you did Wednesday for our New Records Training. I have gotten to know more people and I really enjoy that. I also thought it so cool how many remembered me and my name. I am disappointed I could not make the entire conference. Everyone there has inspired me to go ahead with certification and stick with being a Recorder/Treasurer and give back to my town in that manner. I had thought about giving it up due to the expense for a small town and I have to miss work to come. But I have decided that it is worth my time and effort to be a member of OUR wonderful group. Thanks again.

Katy Burroughs  
Recorder/Treasurer  
109 W. Riverside Drive  
Georgetown, AR 72143  
501-742-1017  
501-278-0725 (cell)  
[kburroughs@agimotors.com](mailto:kburroughs@agimotors.com)

## *Fundraiser - A Hit & a Big Success!*

**Fellow Clerks:** Believe me this is a team effort, our expenses for the tables was \$75.96 and total auction sales was \$998.00 with Donna Jones donating \$2.00 to make it an even \$1000.00! We had 31 auction items and the highest bid was \$145.00 for the Eureka Springs Weekend. I have a group of quilters in town tell me that if I write the "BEGGIN" letter just right, they will donate a handmade quilt or some nice quilted item for us to raffle off.

I would like to thank Diane Whitbey for all the work she has done for the organization and doing the "PEP TALK" e-mails to all clerks. Sherri Gard wrote receipts and watched our booth and I thank her.

For those of you who brought something from your town or yourself and would like to have a thank you sent please let me know and I will take care of it.

Thanks to all City Clerks for your help and support.

Sandy Beaver  
City of Diamond City  
dcch@southshore.com

**Thanks to Sandy, Sherri and to all who helped either by donating or buying items! This was a unique idea that was enjoyed by all!!**



## *I Believe*

I believe-  
That we don't have to change friends if we understand that friends change.

I believe-  
That no matter how good a friend is, they're going to hurt you every once in a while and, you must forgive them for that.

I believe-  
That true friendship continues to grow, even over the longest distance. Same goes for true love.

I believe-  
That you can do something in an instant that will give you heartache for life.

I believe-  
That it's taking me a long time to become the person I want to be.

## *I BELIEVE – con't*

I believe-  
That you should always leave loved ones with loving words. It may be the last time you see them

I believe-  
That you can keep going long after you can't.

I believe-  
That we are responsible for what we do, no matter how we feel.

I believe-  
That either you control your attitude or it controls you.

I believe-  
That regardless of how hot and steamy a relationship is at first, the passion fades and there had better be something else to take its place.

I believe-  
That heroes are the people who do what has to be done when it needs to be done, regardless of the consequences.

I believe-  
That money is a lousy way of keeping score.

I believe-  
That my best friend and I can do anything or nothing and have the best time!

I believe-  
That sometimes the people you expect to kick you when you're down, will be the ones to help you get back up.

I believe-  
That sometimes when I'm angry I have the right to be angry, but that doesn't give me the right to be cruel.

I believe-  
That just because someone doesn't love you the way you want them to doesn't mean they don't love you with all they have.

I believe-  
That maturity has more to do with what types of experiences you've had and what you've learned from them and less to do with how many birthdays you've celebrated.

I believe-  
That just because two people argue, it doesn't mean they don't love each other, And just because they don't argue, it doesn't mean they do.

I believe-  
That you shouldn't be so eager to find out a secret. It could change your life forever.

I believe-  
That two people can look at the exact same thing and see something totally different.

I believe-  
That your life can be changed in a matter of hours by people who don't even know you.

I believe-  
That even when you think you have no more to give, when a friend cries out to you - you will find the strength to help.

I believe-  
That credentials on the wall do not make you a decent human being.

I believe-  
That the people you care about most in life are taken from you too soon.

I believe-  
That you should send this to all of the people that you believe in.

*I Believe – I just did!*

**Johnny Brigham  
Clerk/Treasurer  
City of Dumas  
Certified Municipal  
Clerk**

Congratulation to Johnny Brigham, Clerk/Treasurer for the City of Dumas on being conferred as a Certified Municipal Clerk. Johnny worked for the City of Dumas as a Grant Writer for two years before being appointed City Clerk/Treasurer in April 2004. He was re-elected as the Clerk/Treasurer in November of 2004. He had many years of work experience before becoming City Clerk. His is active in the Dumas Lions Club, Desha County Museum and the First Baptist Church. Johnny has been married to his wife Ann for 30 years. They have one son, Trey, who works in Little Rock. His hobbies include hunting and fishing with Trey and sporting events with his family. Johnny is also hosting our District II ACCRTA meeting in March. Congratulation Johnny!



**Mitri Greenhill, CMC  
City Clerk/Treasurer  
City of Stuttgart  
Second Level Membership  
IIMC Master Municipal Clerk  
Academy**

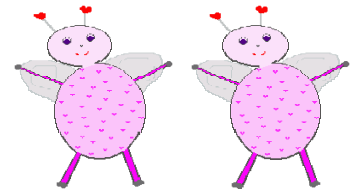
Congratulations to Mitri Greenhill, CMC, City Clerk/Treasurer of the City of Stuttgart on being accepted into the second level of membership of the IIMC Master Municipal Clerk Academy. Mitri began her terms with the City of Stuttgart on January 1, 1991. Prior to that she served on the City Council for six years. Mitri has been active in the ACCRTA having served as a district director and also the handbook chairman. She has also served on the Municipal League's Cities of First Class Cities Committee several times and is currently serving on that committee. She is active in her community by serving on the finance team at her church – First Baptist, and also handling the finance for the Queen Mallard Committee as well as other smaller local organizations. Her hobbies include gardening, reading and crocheting. Her daughter tells her that it takes her a week after a visit to her three grandchildren – a grandson 13 yrs. and two granddaughters ages 6 yrs. and 4 yrs. Mitri explains, "That's my job!"  
Congratulations and thanks for being such a wonderful example to us all!!

**Charlotte Kindle  
City Clerk/Treasurer  
City of Morrilton  
First Level Membership  
IIMC Master Municipal Clerk  
Academy**

Congratulation to Charlotte Kindle, CMC, City Clerk/Treasurer of the City of Morrilton on being accepted into the first level membership of the IIMC Master Municipal Clerk Academy.



Charlotte has been employed by the City of Morrilton for eighteen and half years. She has been the City Clerk/Treasurer since March 1998. She has just begun her third four-year term. She has been married to husband, Minus for 36 years. Her hobbies and interests include gardening, aerobics, sewing and the outdoors.  
Congratulations Charlotte!!



**CONGRATULATIONS**

**to all!!!**

# **HELPING HANDS ACROSS ARKANSAS**

## **District II ACCRTA Meeting**

### **Dumas Community Center**

**March 22 & 23, 2007**

<b>Thursday</b>	<b>3:00 – 5:00</b>	<b>Registration/Desha County Museum Tour</b>
	<b>5:30</b>	<b>Catfish Dinner (McClelland Engineering &amp; Delta Supreme)</b>
	<b>6:30</b>	<b>Ladies Style Show (Dodie's Dress Shop)</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>7:30 – 8:00</b>	<b>Registration/Breakfast (M&amp;F Bank)</b>
	<b>8:00 – 8:30</b>	<b>Welcome – Dumas Mayor Marion S. Gill</b>
	<b>8:30 – 10:00</b>	<b>Terry Hawkins &amp; Agnes Ross – FOI</b>
	<b>10:00 – 10:30</b>	<b>Break (Union Bank)</b>
	<b>10:30 – 12:00</b>	<b>Kevin Smith – Grants Available</b>
	<b>12:00 – 1:00</b>	<b>Lunch (Simmons Bank)</b>
		<b>Entertainment by Desha County Judge Mark McElroy</b>
	<b>1:00 – 2:00</b>	<b>Congressman Mike Ross</b>
	<b>2:00 – 2:15</b>	<b>Break (Union Bank)</b>
	<b>2:15 – 3:00</b>	<b>Questions for Congressman Ross</b>
	<b>3:00</b>	<b>Final Remarks/Certificates</b>

**For Room Reservations ask for rooms reserved at:**

**Days Inn – 870-382-4449**

**Econo Lodge – 870-382-2707**

**(promotion codes given at a later date)**

**Directions from Pine Bluff to Community Center:** Turn left at the 4<sup>th</sup> traffic light (Mad Butcher). Turn left on Belmont (Comet Cleaners). The Center is one block on the left. **Directions from McGehee to Community Center:** Turn right at the 1<sup>st</sup> traffic light (Mad Butcher)

**Dumas Community Center**

**Belmont Drive**

**John Brigham, CMC**

**Clerk – City of Dumas**

**1-870-382-2121**

**District II ACCRTA Meeting  
Dumas Community Center  
Belmont Drive  
Dumas, AR**

**The City of Dumas**

Cordially invites you to attend the  
District II ACCRTA Meeting.

**Registration Cost \$30.00**

Includes all meals, materials, and prizes.

Send Registration Form to:

John Brigham, CMC  
Clerk/Treasurer - City of Dumas  
PO Box 157  
Dumas AR 71639

**Must be received before  
Tuesday, March 20, 2007**

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**Registration Form  
District 2 ACCRTA Meeting**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TITLE:** \_\_\_\_\_

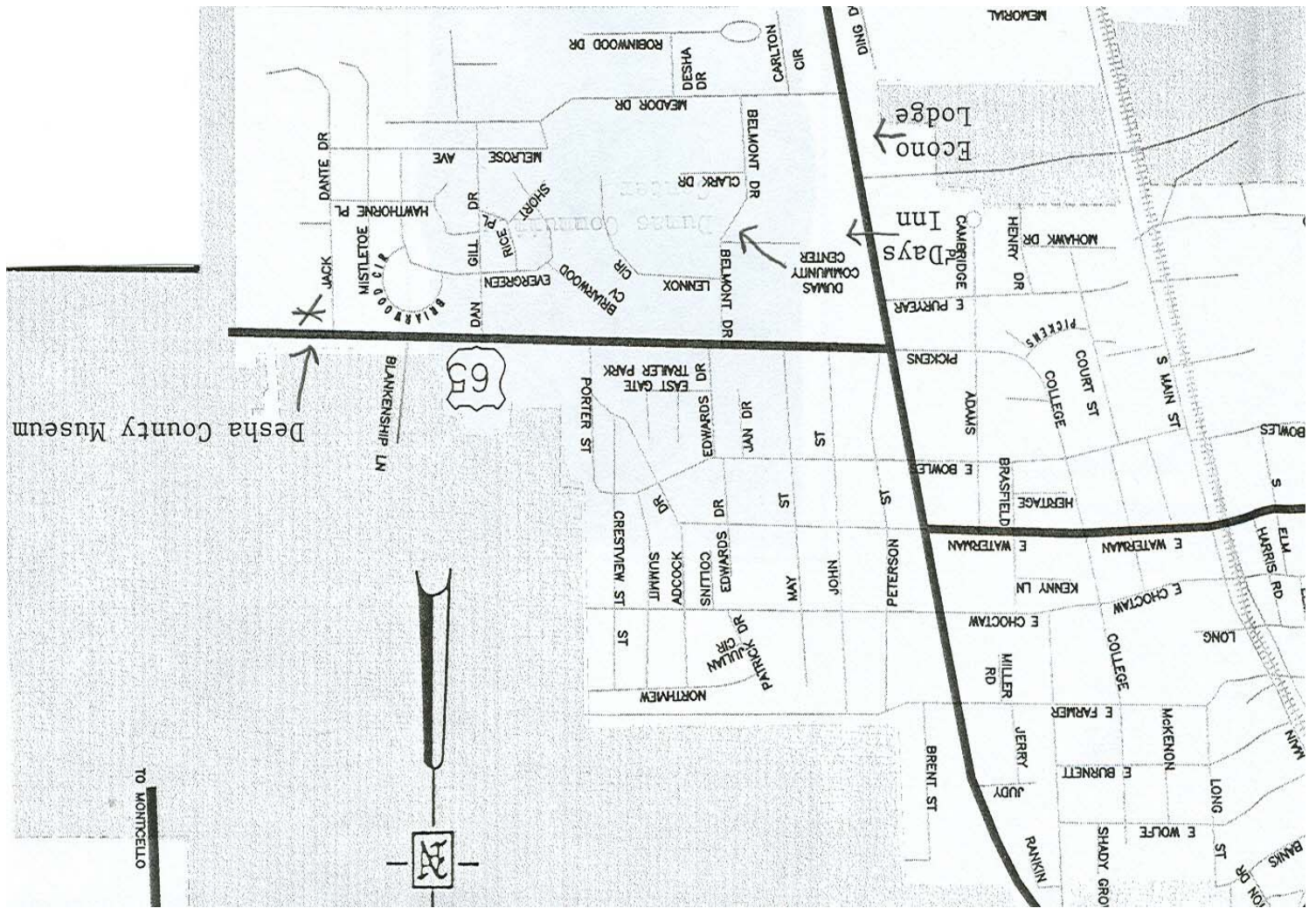
**MUNICIPALITY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ATTENDING: Thursday** \_\_\_\_\_ **Friday** \_\_\_\_\_ **Both** \_\_\_\_\_

# DUMAS MAP -



Yes, the map is upside down! However, you have to be a better computer wizard than I to figure out how to flip it. My recommendation – print it and then turn it over – WOW!! What a genius, huh?!!



## Arkansas City Clerks, Recorders & Treasurers Association

### 2006 – 2007 OFFICERS

**President**

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**Secretary**

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 Cabot AR 72023 fax 501-605-0424

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**

Patti Scott Grey [grey@txkusa.org](mailto:grey@txkusa.org)  
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 Texarkana AR 75504 fax 870-774-3170

**ACCRTA WEBSITE** - Patti Grey [www.accrta.org](http://www.accrta.org)

**ACCRTA NEWSLETTER** – Jo Ellen Martin  
[gentrvcityhall@cox-internet.com](mailto:gentrvcityhall@cox-internet.com)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**

**Treasurer**

Donna Jones [djones@dequeen-ar.us](mailto:djones@dequeen-ar.us)  
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 DeQueen AR 71832 fax 870-642-3117