



## The official Publication of the County Treasurer's Association of Texas

## Letter from the CTAT President

**Fromoting Education, Enhancing Communication, Encouraging Cooperation** 



Dear Colleagues:

I've heard of things being on the "fast track" but this year has actually been on "turbo"!! My year at the helm will come to a close when I pass the baton to our new president, Dolores Ortega-Carter, Travis County Treasurer, at our CTAT Annual Conference in San Marcos, Texas. I know that CTAT has certainly tried to promote education amongst the membership, enhance communication, and encouraged and received cooperation from the majority of the membership. I truly appreciate the work of those who stepped up to the plate when they were needed.

I would like to thank everyone that has made this past year not only a productive one but also an enjoyable one. We had our ups and downs as an association in terms of issues we had to face and we dealt with a few unpleasant situations in a few counties, but we all worked together in "trying" to resolve those problems. Some went well and others maybe not so well since we cannot do too much about the local political climate, but overall, we did work as a team and we tried our best!

One of the most accomplishments is that we now have another county that has acquired payroll from another elected official!! That is what we strive to do...perform more of the core duties that are somewhat unclear or vague in the statutes. Delineating the core duties of the County Treasurer is still a topic that needs legislative action. Several attempts have been made during the last couple of sessions, but we are not there yet. We need to get it past the goal line!

One of the biggest issues we had to deal with this year was parting ways with V. G. Young Institute of County Government as our sponsor for our continuing education. Our new sponsor is the Texas Association of Counties (TAC) in conjunction with the LBJ School of Public Affairs. We look forward to a great working relationship with TAC for our spring continuing education seminars.

And now onward to another legislative session in January! I encourage all of you to not only know who your local State Representatives and Senators are but to get to know their staff. It sure comes in handy during a session! Also, I encourage those that may not be too familiar with the legislative process to please take the time to learn the dynamics of the legislative process. CTAT leadership can always use the help! We do have a CTAT Legislative Consultant/Lobbyist, James Clark, and I also encourage you to meet him and get to know him. James has always represented us well during the sessions.

Again, it's been an honor and a privilege to serve you. I wish the new board much success in working together for the benefit of the association. Take care and God bless!

*Norma G. García* Hidalgo County Treasurer CTAT President 2011-2012 CTAT County Treasurer's Association of Texas AUGUST 2012 TIMEKEEPING, ABSENCE AND LEAVE MANAGEMENT

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### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2012 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Congratulations to all of the CTAT scholarship winners! There are four very deserving winners That will each receive a \$1,250.00 scholarship.

**Kendall Crisp**, granddaughter of retired Haskell County Treasurer, Willie Faye Tidrow. Kendall will be attending Texas Tech

**Anna LoRhae Harris**, daughter of Collingsworth County Treasurer, Gina Harris. Anna will be attending Angelo State University.

**Danae Parman**, daughter of Hartley County Treasurer, Dinkie Parman. Danae will be attending West Texas A&M University.

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**Estanislado Martinez, Jr**., son of Dimmit County Treasurer, Estanislado Martinez. Estanislado will be attending Our Lady of the Lake University.





Important E-Mail and Web Addresses:		
County Treasurer's Web Site <u>www.ctatx.org</u>	Certified Payments Certified Payments	
Treasurer's List Serve <u>tac-tre@list.county.org</u>	Certified for the ayments http://www.cert	
List Serve Sign Up joleen@co.jefferson.tx.us	Accept Credit Card Payments Certified Payments list of services:	
Texas Association of Counties <u>www.county.org</u>	Visit • 24x7 Payment processing website   Visit • 24x7 Real-time reporting engine	
Texas State Government www.texas.gov	with document export for more information. The other construction for physical tension. In the second sec	
Local Government Code <u>www.capitol.state.tx.us/statutes</u>	• IVR system in Spanish	
Treasury Notes Editor jan.hartl@co.wilson.tx.us	Call us toll free: 1.866.539.2020 Emiliar to a standard of advanced. Ended toward of advances in the United International Protocols of the Call	
Internal Revenue Service <u>www.irs.gov</u>		
Department of Labor www.dol.gov	"Everywhere you go, Take a smile with you	
IT'S TIME TO VOTE!!!!		
2012 Ballot Texas Outstanding County Treasurer		
	standing County measurer	
If you will not be attending the CTAT conference in San Marcos, we still need you to vote for the Texas Outstanding County Treasurer for 2012. Please vote for <b>only one</b> of the		
following nominees:   Michele Tuttle, Hays County Gayla Hawkins, San Saba County		
Kelli White, Smith County Mitzi Wohleking, Midland County Place your ballot in an envelope marked with your County Name on the outside. Your ballot will be removed and counted		
anonymously by the auditing committee. If you vo	te by fax or e-mail, please list your county name for auditing purposes and airman, Donna Kelly, before being sent to the auditing committee to be	
counted. Fax to (254)965-1447 or Email countytre If mailing: Hon. Donna Kelly, Erath County Treas	easurer@co.erath.tx.us PLEASE DO NOT VOTE ON THE LISTSERVE!! urer 100 W. Washington, Stephenville, TX 76401	
	CTAT	
★ ☆ ↔ ★ <u>↓</u> √	$\begin{array}{c} \text{CTAT} \\ \text{August 2012} \\ \text{Page 3} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \star \\ \star \\ \star \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \star \\ \star \\ \star \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \star \\ \star \\ \star \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \star \\ \star \\ \star \end{array} \end{array} $ \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \star \\ \star \\ \star \end{array} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \star \\ \star \\ \star \end{array}  \end{array}  \end{array}	

## 2012 OUTSTANDING COUNTY TREASURER NOMINEES



## Michele Tuttle Hays County Treasurer

Michele Tuttle has been with the Hays County Treasurer's office since 1981, and was elected County Treasurer in 1995. She is a Certified County Treasurer (C.C.T.), and earned her County Investment Officer (C.I.O.) certification in 1994, which she still holds today. She has not only represented Hays County, but has also represented Region 7, and the County Treasurers' Association of Texas (CTAT).

Michele has served as Secretary/Treasurer, Vice-President, and President for Region 7.

She is currently serving CTAT on the Legislative Committee, Task Force Committee, Auditing Committee, TOCTA Committee, and as CTAT Historian. And has previously served as Region 7 Director, Sector Director 2, and has been the CTAT "Newsletter" editor from 1995-2011.

In the last seventeen years as County Treasurer, Michele has made it her goal to "Change with the Times". So much has changed: how we invest, direct deposits/withdrawals, changing software, electronic timekeeping system, etc. Michele believes in being prudent, practical and hard working. The belief that Treasurers are the "checks and balances" of county funds and that it is our duty to stand up for what is right and disclose what is not. "It is our obligation to make sure that our statutory duties as established by our forefathers are not eroded but strengthened."

Without an amazing supportive family and a very hard working group of employees in her office, Michele could not have accomplished what she has today.

## Kelli R. White Smith County Treasurer

Kelli White has served as the Smith County Treasurer for seven years. She has been with Smith County for a total of twelve years, serving as Assistant Treasurer for her first five years. Kelli was appointed Treasurer by the Commissioners' Court in 2005 and ran unopposed in 2006 and 2010.

Kelli received her Bachelor's degree from Stephen F. Austin University while working for the Accounting Office for Wal-Mart. Kelli became a Certified Investment Officer (C.I.O.) in 2004 and since taking office in 2005, has computerized all the County's investments and tracking. She is most proud of her accomplishments at streamlining the County's check request policies and investment reporting. During Kelli's tenure as Treasurer, Smith County has gone 100% direct deposit. Kelli has also implemented stricter signature-pickup policies regarding Accounts Payable checks including reimbursement checks.



Kelli served as President of Region 10 of CTAT from 2007 to 2010. In 2008 she was appointed to the Executive Board of the CTAT and also chaired the Education Committee. After serving two years as Treasurer for CTAT she is currently serving as First Vice-President for CTAT. Kelli also served as the host of the CTAT annual conference this past year in Tyler.

Kelli is a life-long member of Friendly Baptist Church in Tyler. Kelli is also an avid supporter of the Susan G. Komen Foundation which raises money locally and nationally for breast cancer research. This cause is very dear to her heart, as four members of her family have previously been diagnosed with breast cancer. Kelli has organized Smith County's "Denim Day" every year since 2005, which allows County employees to wear denim in exchange for a \$5 donation to the Susan G. Komen Foundation. She also was a charter member and served on the board of directors of the Optimist Club of Tyler.



### Gayla M Hawkins San Saba County Treasurer

Gayla Hawkins was elected in 1995. She graduated from Central Texas Commercial College as Valedictorian of her class in 1987, with an Executive Secretarial Degree. After gaining four years' experience in banking and two years in insurance, she decided to run for the Treasurer's Office, was elected, and has served as San Saba County's Certified Treasurer for the past seventeen years.

San Saba County had just converted from manual ledgers to accounting software when Gayla took office. She spent many extra hours carrying out the completion of the conversion process and was able to streamline the County's system of funds retrieval and disbursements and implement a highly improved system of budgetary analysis and oversight. Without the aid of a county auditor or an office assistant,



Gayla is responsible for all duties including HR functions, payroll, accounts payable and budgetary preparation assistance, normally shared in larger counties. Gayla is most proud of these implementations, which has allowed her to better aid the County in becoming totally debt free and building a sizable reserve for future projects, purchases, or emergencies.

Gayla became a Certified Investment Officer (C.I.O.) in 2002, and has served as the County's only Investment Officer since gaining that certification. She served as Secretary/Treasurer for Region VI for eight years and served one year on the CTAT Scholarship Committee. In 2006, Gayla was appointed by the Texas Governor and has served three terms on the CTCOG Regional Review Committee.

Gayla has been a life-long member of First Presbyterian Church in San Saba, and has been active in many youth oriented activities, such as teaching Sunday School, coaching youth baseball, Little Dribblers basketball and has assisted with numerous local fundraisers for various groups or organizations. She has been a Band Booster Member for four years and currently serves as Vice-President.

Gayla has one son, Tanner, her life's greatest blessing. She enjoys spending time with her son, being outdoors, and camping, swimming, snow skiing, riding four-wheelers and cooking.



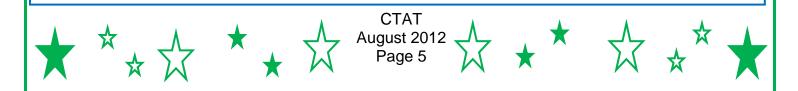
## Mitzi Wohleking Midland County Treasurer

After serving the Midland County taxpayers for over fifteen years in another capacity, Mitzi was elected Midland County Treasurer in November of 2004. Since being in office she has developed a new pay increase system based on years of service, spearheaded the development and opening of a County health clinic that is completely free to all County employees and their dependents, and developed an investment strategy that increased interest earned by 1,000% in her first three years in office. And she says she continues to learn new ways of improving her office every day.

Mitzi is a Certified Investment Officer (C.I.O.). She has served the County Treasurers Association of Texas (CTAT) as Regional Director for Region 3, served on the Long Range Planning and the Directory Committees. Mitzi Chaired the Education Committee in 2011. And is currently the Chairman of the Audit Committee.

Mitzi is an active member of the Midland County Republican Women and served as Secretary for them in 2009.

Mitzi's husband's name is Mark and she has a beautiful daughter named Sally and a handsome son named Reese. She also has three step-children, one of which has given her a beautiful granddaughter, Andie.







## CTAT Conference, San Marcos, Texas September 17-20, 2012

"Rising to the top", Professional Treasurers in Texas

### MONDAY (17<sup>TH</sup>)

10:00am – 5:00pm	Registration Desk Open
1:00pm	Legislative Committee meeting – Chautauqua Room
2:00pm	Education Committee meeting – San Marcos River Room
3:00pm - 5:00pm	Board Meeting – Spring Lake Ball Room
5:30pm - 7:30pm	Embassy Manager's reception/Happy Hour
7:00pm – 9:00pm	Come and Go Welcome Reception with heavy appetizers in Hospitality Suite Room #201. Cards and dominoes to follow.

#### Area attractions for those arriving early:

Outlet shopping malls (next exit down; Embassy shuttle can drop you off and pick you up)

Dick's Classic Garage Car Museum

Hike & Bike Trails

Wimberley Zipline Adventures

Golf Courses:

The Bandit Golf Club, New Braunfels

Quail Creek Country Club, San Marcos Texas State Golf Course, San Marcos

Landa Park Golf Course, New Braunfels

Chaparral Golf Course, Seguin

Max Starke Park Golf Club, Seguin



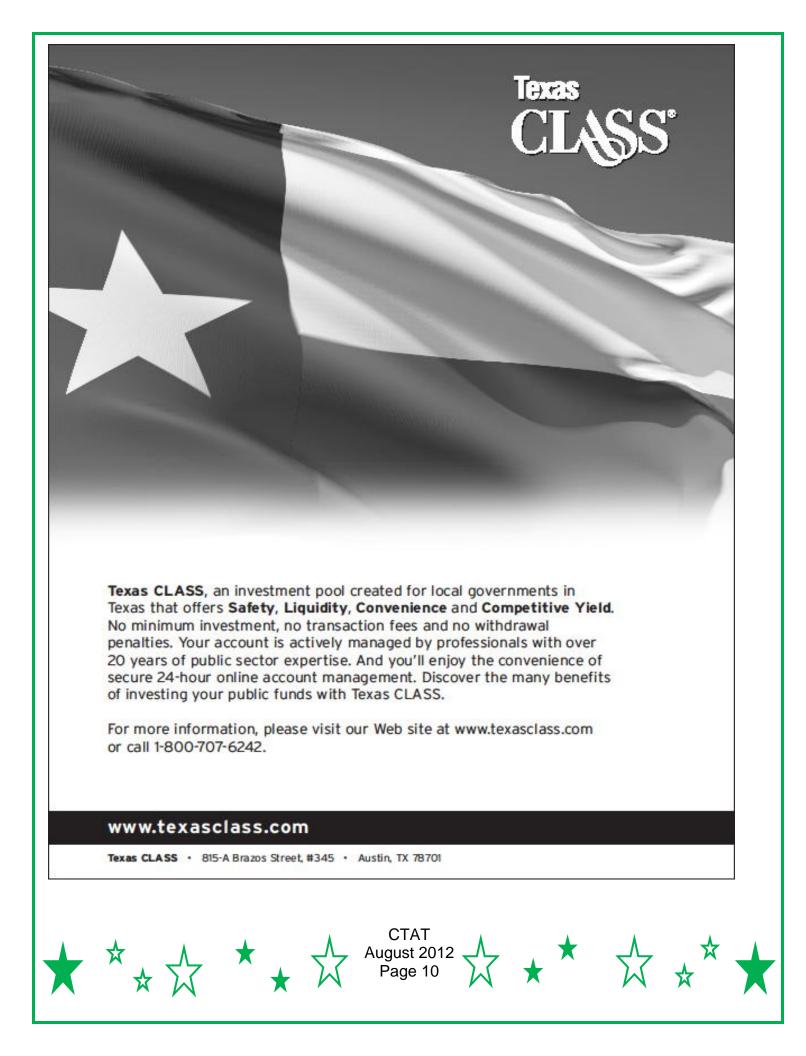




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TUESDAY (18 <sup>TH</sup> )		
8:00am – 5:00pm	Registration Desk Open	
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8:00am – 5:00pm	Vendor Exhibits, Spring Lake Ballroom C	
8:00am	Conference convenes, Spring Lake Ballroom A & B	
8:30am- 10:10am	Professionalism: How We Do Our Jobs Makes a World of Difference	
10:10am- 10:40am	Visit Vendor Booths, Beverages served in Vendor area.	
10:40am - 11:30am	The Texas Public Information Act: the Price of Transparency	
11:30am – 1:00pm	<i>"South of the Border Buffet"</i> Luncheon with Style Show by <i>"</i> Two P's & Calli's Trendy Boutique" honoring CTAT President Norma Garcia and the Texas Outstanding County Treasurer nominees in room Veramendi B & C	
1:00pm Retur	n to Springlake A & B	
1:00pm- 1:50pm	<mark>\$\$\$</mark> Texas Economic Outlook	
1:50pm- 2:40pm	Counterfeit Currency	
2:40pm- 3:10pm	Visit Vendor Booths, "Take me out to the Ballpark" break in Vendor area.	
3:10pm – 4:00pm	Legislative Update	
4:00pm – 4:50pm	TCDRS Is Doing Retirement Right	
5:30pm	Buses will depart for Gruene, TX. Dinner will be served at the Gristmill 7:00pm. Afterwards, enjoy the atmosphere of the Guadalupe River or head on over to Gruene Hall next door for a little live music.	
9:15pm	Hospitality room #201 opens.	
<u>WEDNESDAY (19<sup>TH</sup>)</u>		
8:00am – 10:00am	Registration Desk Open	
8:00am – 5:00pm	Vendor Exhibits, Spring Lake Ballroom C	
8:30am	Conference Re-convenes in Spring Lake rooms A & B	
8:30am – 9:20am	The Digital Con Game	
9:20am – 10:10am	<mark>\$\$\$</mark> Questions About the Economy	
$\star \star $		

WEDNESDAY (19 <sup>TH</sup> )		
10:10am – 10:40am	Visit Vendor Booths, Beverages served in Vendor area	
10:40am – 11:30am	\$\$\$ Questions About the Economy (continued after break)	
11:30am – 12:00pm	CTAT Business meeting	
12:00pm – 1:00pm	<i>"Smoked Turkey Wrap"</i> Lunch served in Veramendi room F	
1:00pm Return to Spring Lake A & B		
1:00pm – 2:40pm	<mark>\$\$\$</mark> The Rise and Fall of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac	
2:40pm – 3:10pm	Visit Vendor Booths, <i>"Island Time"</i> break served in Vendor area	
3:10pm – 4:00pm	Records Management Basics	
6:00pm	Group Picture, 1 <sup>st</sup> floor dining area.	
6:30pm	Silent Auction – Bring items!	
6:30pm	Puttin' On the Ritz Hill Country Style, Black and White Banquet & Ball. Spring Lake Rooms A & B Entertainment to follow by Big Daddy Dean. Big Daddy Dean, aka Dean Mark, is a rising star in the Texas music industry. He performs many different genres of music; Blues, R&B, Country, Pop, Jazz, Rock & Roll, and much, much more.	
<u>THURSDAY (20<sup>TH</sup>)</u>		
8:00am	Spring Lake A & B	
8:00am – 8:50am	The Peer Panel	
8:50am – 9:40am	Records Management Basics	
9:40am – 10:10am	Beverages served	
10:10am – 11:00am	Leading Through Influence: Success Strategies That Get Results	
11:00am	Closing remarks, Conference is adjourned.	
Sessions marked with "\$\$\$" will apply as Public Funds Investment Act (PFIA) training.		
<u>BOARD MEMBERS:</u> 11:00am – 12:00pm	CTAT Board Meeting in Chataqua A.	
REMEMBER TO BRING SOMETHING WARM TO WEAR, AS SOME OF THE CLASSES CAN BE A LITTLE COOL!		
$\star \star $		





## 64<sup>th</sup> Annual County Treasurers Association Conference

## Puttin<sup>°</sup> On the Ritz Hill Country Style



## Black and White Banquet & Ball

Put on your black, white and bling and enjoy a Hill Country steak dinner topped off with a slice of Texas Pecan Pie !

Meet the new officers and board members and discover the identity of the 2012 Outstanding County Treasurer.

Finish off the evening with some great music, dancing and visiting.

Silent auction items will be offered before and during dinner.



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#### Phoenix

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- Conducts Arbitrage Rebate Compliance seminars in cities throughout the country

**到 Ernst & Young** Quality In Everything We Do



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## 2012 - 2013

## DATES TO REMEMBER



September 17-20, 2012	64 <sup>th</sup> Annual County Treasurers' Association Conference San Marcos, Embassy Suites Hotel and Conference Center	
September 20-21, 2012	Public Funds Investment Act, Beaumont	
October 4-5, 2012	Public Funds Investment Act, College Station	
October 11-12, 2013	Public Funds Investment Act, Dallas	
October 7-13, 2012	TAC Investment Officer Level I, TAC Events Center, Austin	
November 15-16, 2012	TAC Public Funds Investment Conference, Houston Omni Houston Hotel	
February 5-6, 2013	Public Funds Investment Act, Wichita Falls	
February 12-13, 2013	Public Funds Investment Act, Waco	
March 25-26, 2013	Public Funds Investment Act, San Angelo	
Month of April	County Government Month	
April 10-12, 2013	TAC County Management Institute, Austin	
May 13-17, 2013	<b>41<sup>st</sup> Annual Treasurers Continuing Education Seminar</b> , Sheraton Austin Hotel at the Capitol	
June 10-13, 2013	TAC <b>County Investment Officer Training, Level II</b> , Moody Gardens Hotel, Galveston	
August 1-2, 2012	Public Funds Investment Act, San Antonio	
August 28-30, 2013	TAC Post-legislative Conference, Austin, Hilton	
TAC – Texas Association of Counties www.county.org		

\* \*

Public Funds Investment Act www.unt.edu/cpm/schedule.htm







#### **CTAT 2011-2012 SLATE OF OFFICERS**

President: Norma Garcia, Hidalgo County President-Elect: Delores Ortega-Carter, Travis County First Vice President – Kelli White, Smith County Second Vice President – David Betancourt, Cameron County Secretary – Cindy Brown Treasurer – Renee Couch, Comal County Immediate Past President – Katherine Hudson, Wise County





