



# Treasury Notes

The Official Publication of the County Treasurers' Association of Texas

Summer/Fall 2022

## “INSPIRED” WORDS ABOUT OUR PRESIDENT- THE HONORABLE JENNIFER HENDERSON

From the moment she was handed the gavel, and even before, our president challenged us with her theme and mission of “INSPIRE”. Jennifer has led by example, inspiring our CTAT membership along the way.



**“Congratulations Jennifer on a job well done! You are such a “firecracker” and blaze the trail with direction and passion. Thank you for being a great leader for CTAT. Welcome to the list of Past Presidents!” – Cindy Yeatts Brown, Denton County**

***“Jennifer is such a positive person. She brings energy into the room as soon as she enters. She is always going above and beyond to help a fellow treasurer. For being a County Treasurer for such a short period, she has just stepped up and owned it as if she has been County Treasurer for 50 years. Such a great person to be around. Thank you, Jennifer!” – Lyndy Krause, Lee County***

***Jennifer ~ You are the epitome of your theme “Inspire trust”. You inspire trust of in many people, some you may never even realize. I am proud of you and all of your accomplishments, my friend. You make a difference! We are blessed to have you as our President and I THANK YOU for your dedication to CTAT! - Tracy Soldan, Kerry County***



President Henderson (Jennifer),

You have served your term as CTAT President with commitment, passion, grace, composure, and professionalism all the while with your confident and fashionable presence. You have been faced with several stressful challenges this past year and I applaud and admire you for the way you have handled them all. I can't express enough to everyone what a "true" public servant you are, so I'm shouting it out here! You tirelessly perform the duties of your office of which you wear many "hats", volunteer your already limited time not only in your own county, but selflessly reach out and travel to other counties in their time of need. Then when all is said and done, you somehow find the energy to have fun and make memories with your two young, beautiful children and the rest of your family at home.

Your tireless efforts to make things better in the world around you "inspire" me to work harder to do the same, and your quick wit and ability to make me laugh during our many conversations is priceless! ....and, you are quite the multifaceted talent (i.e. music, acting and speaking Spanish). Thank you for always sharing your tidbits of knowledge and valuable information that will help me to follow in your and others' footsteps as President of CTAT. You definitely have exemplified your theme of "Inspire Trust"!

Kudos for a Job Well Done!

~Gayla Hawkins

Madam President,

Thank you for truly inspiring me to be better, do better and offer my best to others. I have come to count on you to be the voice of reason as well as an invaluable advisor. Although I will never be able to speak fluent Spanish, sing or play the piano... You have inspired me to never settle for anything less than reaching my goals. -Leann Monk, Tyler County

Jennifer,

Thank you for your Commitment to County Government and being an example of Saying Yes to Opportunity. You are an Inspiration to ALL of Us and CTAT will continue to benefit from your Leadership.

Most sincerely, Renee Couch

### "Inspire"

As I'm sure you know, "Inspire" was Jennifer Henderson's theme for her term as CTAT president. And, if you've had opportunities to observe her in action, you know that "Inspire" is something she does. *"Inspirational" is something she is.* Inspirational Leadership is something that was desperately needed over the past two years. Jennifer understood that the hands she, her family and fellow Schleicher County officials had been dealt were not good ones. She also understood that while those bad hands did matter, *the choices she and other leaders made about them would matter more!*

### Leadership in her Office

Early in the pandemic many organizational leaders believed that they could either continue conducting business or reduce the risk of contracting COVID. Jennifer looked for and found ways to do both. Her inspirational leadership helped Schleicher County citizens; members of her staff and other courthouse officials and employees realize that *surrendering to bad situations is not the only option*

### Leadership in her Home

As the mother of two school-age kiddos, Jennifer was rightly concerned with how the pandemic was impacting her children's education. Again, instead wallowing in victimhood, Jennifer made a more heroic choice. *She became her children's teacher.*

During this same year Jennifer's mom was diagnosed with cancer, and again, Jennifer stepped up. *She became her mom's caregiver.* Taking time out from her county treasurer and homeschool teacher roles, she traveled with her mom for treatments in other cities.

Were any of these tasks easy? Absolutely not, but for Jennifer, they absolutely were the right things to do. Instead of blaming, wallowing in self-pity and just giving up, Jennifer did what all dynamic leaders do in troubling times. *She provided inspirational leadership.*

In my 35 years as a leadership coach and facilitator of leadership development programs, I have met and worked with some truly outstanding leaders. Jennifer Henderson stands right up there with the best of them. So today, Jennifer, I join your colleagues in thanking you for the leadership you have provided CTAT.

And I extend my best wishes for great success in all the leadership positions I know you will fill in the years ahead. I have no doubt that the one thing you will always do in those leadership positions—and in your life—is inspire others. After all, *inspirational is something you are.* -Jim Bearden



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## A Conversation with Gayla Hawkins, Grayson County Treasurer & CTAT President-Elect

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***Gayla Hawkins is Grayson County Treasurer and the CTAT President-Elect. Before she was elected as the Grayson County Treasurer in 2015, she served as San Saba County Treasurer from 1995-2012. Gayla will take her place as the CTAT President in September at the annual Conference in Waco.***

***Q: What do the words, “Grayson County Treasurer” mean to you?***

***A:*** A magnificent honor, privilege, and blessing to have bestowed on me by the citizens of Grayson County; to be entrusted with the duties required of this public office and to represent the people of my County.

***Q: What is the one thing you want people to know about you?***

***A:*** My outlook on life: We are ALL imperfect humans, and when we set pride aside to allow ourselves to be vulnerable to this, life becomes much easier to navigate, and the inner peace resulting from it is phenomenal! .... However, that doesn't give us an out to not strive to be or give our best in everything we do.

***Q: What would you say is your biggest challenge? How did you overcome it?***

***A:*** For me, it is knowing that in EVERY branch/level of government, there will ALWAYS be that dynamic of politics where choices are made by those who do not truly have their constituency, employees, or peers' best interest or welfare at heart, and knowing those individuals abuse the privileges and authority vested to them for the sake of self-serving interests.

***PRAYER!!!!***

On a lighter note: Public speaking is another challenge for me, but I am working on it, LOL!!

***Q: What are you most looking forward to in during the next year as CTAT President?***

***A:*** Taking this wonderful opportunity to represent my CTAT family; firmly standing by our CTAT creed, objectives and by-laws; continuing to grow, learn, meet new people and network; and striving to be a positive force and influence in everything I do.

***Q: Finally, what is your “go-to” piece of advice that you lean on in your career?***

***A:*** The Favorite Go-To I have leaned on most of my life --- The Serenity Prayer:

***“God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can and the wisdom to know the difference.”***

***My words:*** Choose your battles wisely, but when you do choose a battle, pray fervently for God's counsel to guide you and make the earnest effort to be still and listen before acting. We may not always like the answer or outcome, but we must faithfully accept it for being the BEST at that moment in time.

## ***We are going to miss you!***

<b><i>The Honorable Scott Hahn</i></b>	Gray County
<b><i>The Honorable Kathy Sargent</i></b>	Hutchinson County
<b><i>The Honorable Brenda Rankin</i></b>	Throckmorton County
<b><i>The Honorable Tanya Fallin</i></b>	Palo Pinto County
<b><i>The Honorable Jenny Barnwell</i></b>	Parker County
<b><i>The Honorable Doris Sealy</i></b>	Cochran County
<b><i>The Honorable Bob Dockens</i></b>	Trinity County
<b><i>The Honorable Terrie Neuville</i></b>	Marion County
<b><i>The Honorable Sheryl Barborak</i></b>	Gonzales County
<b><i>The Honorable Leann Jennings</i></b>	Potter County
<b><i>The Honorable Ron Wood</i></b>	Menard County
<b><i>The Honorable Sheila Pahl</i></b>	Crane County
<b><i>The Honorable Mitzi Baker</i></b>	Midland County
<b><i>The Honorable RJ Bob Hampton</i></b>	Wichita County
<b><i>The Honorable Alan Dierschke</i></b>	Glasscock County
<b><i>The Honorable Polly McMillan</i></b>	Mason County
<b><i>The Honorable Anne Strube</i></b>	Runnels County
<b><i>The Honorable Jerri Ann Wilson</i></b>	Coleman County
<b><i>The Honorable Estanislado Martinez</i></b>	Dimmit County
<b><i>The Honorable Ann Daily</i></b>	Young County
<b><i>The Honorable Teresa Kassell</i></b>	Llano County
<b><i>The Honorable Betty Sue Allen</i></b>	Franklin County
<b><i>The Honorable Jan Windham</i></b>	Callahan County
<b><i>The Honorable Sheryl Preddy</i></b>	Titus County
<b><i>The Honorable Mairi Gray</i></b>	Real County
<b><i>The Honorable Karen Grigsby</i></b>	Terry County
<b><i>The Honorable Cathy Campbell</i></b>	Brazoria County
<b><i>The Honorable Darla Thomason</i></b>	Dickens County
<b><i>The Honorable Rhonda Burkhart</i></b>	Hill County
<b><i>The Honorable Sandra Embrey</i></b>	Red River County
<b><i>The Honorable Regina Wilkinson</i></b>	Loving County
<b><i>The Honorable Bryan Howard</i></b>	Goliad County
<b><i>The Honorable Joann Carter</i></b>	Wilbarger County
<b><i>The Honorable Jo Dawn Bomar</i></b>	Bastrop County
<b><i>The Honorable Becky Burford</i></b>	Wood County
<b><i>The Honorable Donna Thornton</i></b>	Wharton County
<b><i>The Honorable Kimberly Barrier</i></b>	Erath County
<b><i>The Honorable Kevin Walsh</i></b>	Galveston County
<b><i>The Honorable Dylan Osborne</i></b>	Harris County



WISHING YOU MUCH  
JOY & HAPPINESS AS  
YOU BEGIN A NEW  
CHAPTER IN YOUR  
LIFE.



Thank you for the example you have set, the advice you have shared and the encouragement you have given. You have forever made an impression not only in your county, but in the hearts of our CTAT family.

# Inspiring Involvement...

Spring  
Conference  
Fun Walk in  
San Marcos

Attendees of the New Treasurer's School



Leadership 254 Graduates



Risk Management  
Conference. Round Rock



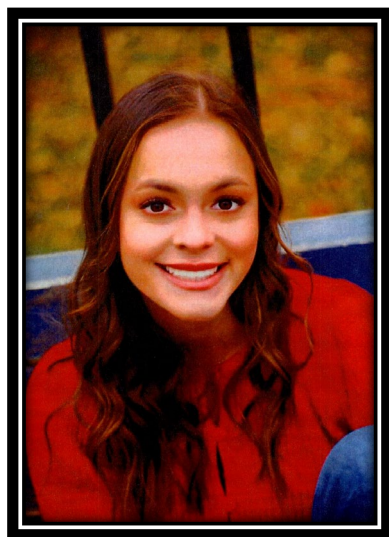
Cindy Yeatts Brown represented Texas and participated in NACo's County Leadership Institute program, June 12-16 in Washington D.C.

County leaders, including NACo 1st VP Denise Winfrey (center, right) and 2nd VP Mary Jo McGuire (left), participate in the [County Leadership Institute](#), a rigorous four-day program at NACo HQ.



## CTAT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Krystal Kucera – Granddaughter of Suzanne Kucera, Retired Matagorda Co. Treasurer who was awarded a Lifetime Membership of CTAT. Krystal's Mom and Dad are David and Inez Kucera, and she lives in Wharton County. Krystal plans to attend Texas A & M University and pursue a degree in Biomedical Science and has already been accepted. After getting her bachelor's degree, she hopes to go on to Medical School to become an anesthesiologist.



Ashlanne Marie Fuentes – Granddaughter of Ann Strube, Runnels Co. Treasurer. Ashlanne's Mom and Dad are Martin and Christy Fuentes and she lives in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Ashlanne plans to attend the University of Central Arkansas where she is already accepted, and she plans to pursue a Pre-Physician's Assistant/Biology degree. At the same time, she will also be playing soccer for the University's Lady Bears soccer team. After that she plans to apply to Physicians Assistant School.

Coree Guerra – Daughter of Christy Khoury, Orange Co. Treasurer, and she lives in Orange Texas. Coree plans to attend Lamar University where she is already accepted and plans to pursue a degree in Biochemistry. She plans to work as a Pharmacy Tech as she has already begun a certification in pharmacology in high school. She plans her career to be in either research or cosmetic development.



# Dates to Remember

**74th Annual County Treasurers' Association of Texas Conference**  
**Sept. 12-15, 2022**  
Hilton Waco & Waco Convention Center, Waco

### Reminder:

Tuesday Lunch—Business Meeting and Lunch honoring President Jennifer Henderson.

Tuesday night—Night at the PALADIUM with Ventriloquist/Magician/Comedian PHIL NICHOLS and a possible Guest Appearance by Dorothy, Rose, Blanche and Sophia. Bring your appetite and get ready to laugh out loud! Transportation will be provided and requires preregistration.

Wednesday afternoon—SILENT AUCTION benefiting the CTAT college scholarship fund. Please bring lots of cool and unique items for some fun bidding by Treasurers and vendors. Bidding Ends at 2:50 p.m.

Wednesday evening—BOOTS & BLING Installation Banquet at the BAYLOR CLUB with the GORDON COLLIER BAND. Put on your boots and bling and mosey on over for a hoedown to celebrate President-Elect Gayla Hawkins and our incoming Board. Transportation will also be provided and requires preregistration.

Motivational Speakers:

LaDonna Gatlin—Tune Up Your Life

Richard Hight—The Art of Making a Difference

Applications being accepted for the 2023-2024 Class this summer!



## COMMITTEE UPDATES:

**FUNDRAISING – DON'T FORGET YOUR SILENT AUCTION ITEM FOR THE CTAT CONFERENCE!**

**DIRECTORY – DO YOU HAVE CHANGES TO YOUR ONLINE INFORMATION? ADDRESS? PHOTO? PLEASE EMAIL ANY CHANGES TO YOUR PROFILE TO:**

**CINDY YEATTS BROWN**  
**[CINDY.BROWN@DENTONCOUNTY.GOV](mailto:CINDY.BROWN@DENTONCOUNTY.GOV)**



**NEED TO ADD ADDITIONAL DATES OR INFORMATION? PLEASE CONTACT LEANN MONK @ 409-200-1866 OR**

**[LMONK.COTREAS@CO.TYLER.TX.US](mailto:LMONK.COTREAS@CO.TYLER.TX.US)**

LET US KNOW:

WHO'S RETIRING?

WHO'S NEW?

WHO'S MAKING A DIFFERENCE?

HAVE "NOTE" WORTHY PICTURES?