



Treasury Notes

The Official Publication of the County
Treasurers' Association of Texas

Pre-Conference 2023

Greetings CTAT,

As the end of my term as CTAT President is quickly approaching, I want to share my thoughts of and thanks for this incredible and quite memorable journey. We started off with preparation for the 88th Legislative Session, and what a session it was indeed. I cannot adequately express my sincere appreciation to each and every one of you on the CTAT Legislative, Education and Public Relations Committees and ALL members of CTAT who showed support and worked to help us in April in Austin, and in your respective counties, and for reaching out to your Representatives and Senators to make your voices heard regarding the abolishment bills. I also want to extend my gratitude to Jason McElvaney and Elizabeth Choate for sharing their legislative expertise, support, and endless efforts while working with us at the Capitol to assist our cause and always being available at a moments' notice.

What an extreme honor to make those visits to the Capitol of our great State of Texas and meet face to face with those that represent us and to educate them of who we are and what we do. Also, to have the opportunity to testify before both Senate and House Committees on behalf of my beloved CTAT family to fight for the preservation of transparency, accountability, and fiduciary responsibility to the taxpayers and voters and the framework of our constitution. We fought hard to kill the bills that were detrimental to that preservation, and though we were unsuccessful with one, we still have an extremely valuable opportunity to win this cause on November 7th, when we make our voices heard through our right to vote against Proposition 12 (abolishment of the Galveston County Treasurer's office).

As my journey continued with further education of how the Legislative process works and I witnessed firsthand how political strategies are commandeered, and nonsensical decisions are made, the gamut of emotions I experienced ranged from pride and elation to extreme frustration and disappointment. However, with that said, I will forever remain grateful that I am a Texan and a Treasurer!

I am so very proud of the continued efforts of those members of our Association, who diligently and tirelessly work to build the relationships necessary to advance our initiative of being a valuable educational resource, not only for our CTAT members, but for all other affiliate associations and leaders throughout our State. We must continue to foster unity within our counties and beyond, and make every effort to maintain the integrity of our elected offices.

The bonds and friendships that I have had the fortune to establish with county treasurers, other county officials and TAC staff members is immeasurable. I strongly encourage each and every one of you to continue to learn, grow and work to overcome the negative and to forever strive for the positive in everything you do. That is where you will find your courage to be the best you can be no matter the outcome of your endeavors.

I am grateful for this opportunity to have served as your President and blessed beyond measure to be a part of this wonderful association.

Respectfully and with Much Appreciation,

Gayla Hawkins

Grayson County Treasurer

President, County Treasurers Association of Texas (2022-2023) – "COURAGE TO STAND"

Treasurer Connection – A Year of Courage



My theme this year is "Courage to Stand". Let us continue to find our courage to face new challenges we may never have thought we could and with that courage we can overcome the obstacles that keep us from accomplishing great things in our offices, our counties, our Association, and even our personal lives. -Gayla Hawkins, CTAT President, 2022-2023

Do what you can, with what you have, where you are."

- Theodore Roosevelt

The courage of a leader...

Madam President, you have served CTAT with dedication and tenacity! You never flinched in the face of difficult decisions and stood strong for our membership. Congratulations Gayla on a job well done! I'm so very proud of you. Much love – Cindy Brown, Denton County, President 2009-2010

Dearest Gayla, serving as President of CTAT is no small feat, especially during a Legislative year. Watching you testify and walking the halls of the State Capitol with you were some of my proudest moments, witnessing you lead with courage. You inspired trust from me; and have proven to be a skilled leader. I hope CTAT is able to enjoy your leadership for years more to come. With admiration, Jennifer Henderson

Gayla has made such a personal impact on me with her selfless leadership of CTAT. I am honored to call her a friend and role model. She has set the bar high for treasurers and upcoming leadership of CTAT. -Karrie Crownover, Burnet County

On behalf of the entire board, I would like to express our sincere gratitude for your outstanding leadership and dedication as our board president for the past year. You have been instrumental in guiding our organization through challenging times and ensuring our continued success and growth. Your vision, passion and commitment have inspired us all and made a lasting impact on our organization. We are grateful for the opportunity to work with you and learn from you. Thank you for serving as our board president. – Ruben Cavazos, Willacy County

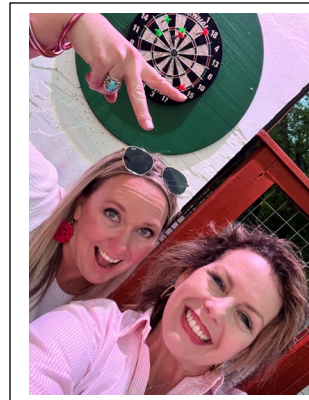
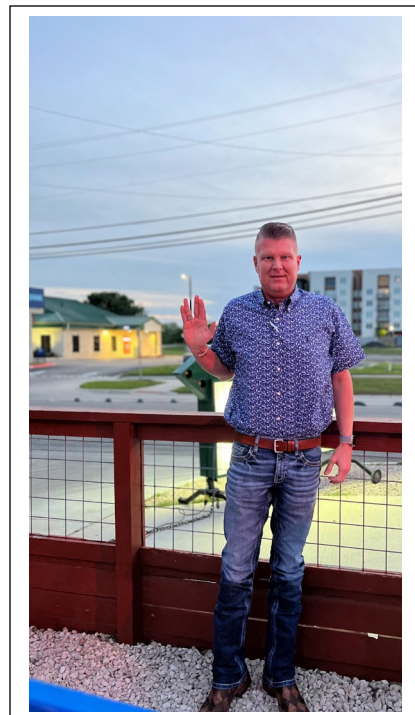
Gayla, during your tenure as president, we have seen enormous growth in the CTAT organization. You have been integral to the important advances we have made, particularly in the area of legislative matters. It is your behind-the-scenes work that we are thankful for and especially your leadership in work you have put in at the Capitol, communicating the importance of the responsibilities and duties of the County Treasurers. -Pauline Medrano, Dallas County

Oh, my friend - The year it has been! I am always in awe of your wise words, leadership by example, find a solution, forever the encourager, fierce defender, feet firmly planted in all that you believe outlook on life and work ethic. You are truly the real deal! Thank you for an amazing year! – Leann Monk, Tyler County

President Gayla, saying "thank you" is not enough for me to express how grateful I am for your support this last year. You showed great leadership, poise, and grace through it all. Thank you for trusting me and believing in me. It has been a privilege working with you, and I will always be grateful! -Two Word! - Hood County

"Courage is found in Unlikely places." – JRR Tolkien

The Fam...2022-2023



The City of the Palms

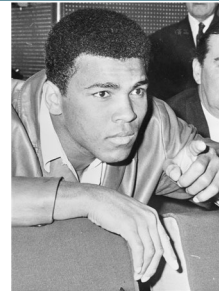
75th Annual CTAT Conference



CONFERENCE NEED TO KNOW....

- Tuesday 9/19 @ 5:30 pm at the University Draft House – SHOW YOUR SCHOOL SPIRIT – COME OUT IN YOUR FAVORITE TEAM JERSEY OR COLORS!
- Wednesday 9/20 @ 5:30 pm at Quinta Mazatlan – IT'S FIESTA TIME! WEAR YOUR FIESTA ATTIRE!
- Don't forget your Silent Auction Items!!

Nos vemos pronto!



"He who is not courageous enough to take risks will accomplish nothing in life"

A letter from the editor...

Just a quick note to say thank you to all of you who read my version of the Treasury Notes for the last two years. This is where I started my journey with CTAT and I am so glad I said yes when President Henderson asked, and again when President Hawkins asked. I have loved being able to give back to my association in this way.

I can't wait to read the next edition of the Treasury Notes – with the new editor!

LamMok

Tyler County