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MCTA eNews

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Hello, Treasurers -

Welcome to MCTA eNews - Your quarterly snapshot of the latest association news and information to enjoy, share, and use!

MCTA eNews

Spring 2015

Congratulations Nicole!

What came as a huge surprise to most Missourians last week came as acknowledgement to MCTA's county treasurers of what they had come to see in a fellow treasurer – a dedicated public servant with formidable talents and strengths in accounting and auditing. One of their own, Boone County Treasurer Nicole Galloway, was selected by Governor Jay Nixon to the post of State Auditor.

Recently appointed to the CERF Board, and head of the association's Pie Day at the State Capitol, members saw firsthand the dedication, intelligence and energy she brings to the project at hand. Nicole acknowl-



edged the special relationship she found in working with her fellow county treasurers when she said, "The collaboration among County Treasurers in Missouri is a true asset to our state, and I thank everyone for the teamwork I have been allowed to be a part of time and again. Please know, I have tremendous respect for the work that local officials perform each and every day, and the impact it has on the daily lives of Missourians."

The pride MCTA members felt in Nicole's soon-to-be appointment was palpable in the explosion of intra-association emails congratulating her. MCTA President Steve Cheslik said, "We are so proud of Nicole. Her professionalism and passion to serve her constituents will make her a great state audi-



Missouri's next State Auditor,
Nicole Galloway
Boone County Treasurer

tor." Nicole underscored her commitment to professionalism when she said, about her upcoming duties, "I will ensure citizens have a clear view into the work of the State Auditor's office. All Missourians have my promise that work will be performed independently. I will review all levels of government with professionalism, even-handedness and integrity."

Legislators Eat Up Pie Day

MCTA's 2015 Pie Day was a clear success. Clad in green and armed with pastries, a small army of county treasurers descended on the General Assembly in Jefferson City on Tuesday, March 10th, to show appreciation to their legislators and statewide officials.

Many MCTA members who participated were able to make personal contact with their legislators during the day.

Mary Clair (Webster County) said, "I was able to meet all three of my legislators in the hallway and on the floor of the House." She added,



flavors."

MCTA participants commented on legislators and assistants expressing their

"Some assistants familiar with Pie Day were requesting particular

(Continued on page 2)

Pie Day (continued)

"Great people, good pies, great opportunity - and a pleasure to see all of the county treasurers take a personal interest and visit their legislators in person to explain their views and issues."



Sen. Mike Cunningham

(Continued from page 1)

gratitude both for the delicious pies and for the presence of county treasurers in the hallways of the State Capitol.

Following an introduction from the floor of

the Senate, the band of treasurers focused on logistics.

Nicole Galloway (Boone County) organized the purchasing and distribution of the association's pastry offerings, and her efforts went over exceedingly well. "It was a really great day, and

Nicole's process for us to deliver the pies was slick and easy," said Cindy Esely (Andrew County). Nicole's logistics had treasurers delivering to a single floor which eased deliveries given the very crowded hallways and

offices on that particular day. Marty Smith (Saline County) said, "Thanks to Nicole's efforts, our main task of delivering was 'a piece of pie,' pun intended!"

The new pie vendor, Peggy Jean's Pies in

Columbia, Missouri, was a hit as well. Joan Branson, legislative assistant to Senator Mike Cunningham (Dist. 33), said, "The senator enjoyed every bite of his pie." Afterwards, MCTA members regrouped for lunch at McCalister's Deli, followed by a meeting of the MCTA



Heather Reynolds (Johnson), Rep. Dean Dohrman, and Kim Lyne (Pettis)

Board. President Cheslik thanks everyone who helped in making this year's Pie Day a success.



Profile: Washington County's Phyllis Long

Years serving as County Treasurer: "Four."

How I came to run for office: "I had been a bookkeeper for a lumber company for over 41 years and was going to get my hours cut. A friend suggested running for Treasurer. I did, won and here I am, starting my second term."

What I like most about being a treasurer: "Bookkeeping. That is what I have done for 46 years and I just love it."

Most difficult thing about being a treasurer: "The politics."

Favorite politician: "Winston Churchill."

Away from the office, my favorite pastime is: "Being with my 11 grandkids. They keep me very busy."

My favorite movie: "Field of Dreams."

My favorite book: "The Old Man and the Sea."

Something most people don't know about me is: "I'm the youngest of 12 kids. I have 6 brothers and 5 sisters. I have a daughter, Shawnee, who has 5 children (including a set of triplets) and a son, Chad, who has 6 children (including a set of twins)."

Other bits: "I am a very big sports fan. I go to a lot of the High School games, including my granddaughter's softball games for a traveling team in St. Louis. I have been a Cardinal fan all of my life."

Phyllis Long





Soapbox...a MCTA forum for friendly views and opinions...

What did you enjoy about your last vacation?



Barba Parrish
Barton County

What I Enjoyed Most about My Last Vacation: First let me tell you that I am Barba Parrish, first term Barton County Collector-Treasurer. The last vacation I took was with my husband to Buena Park, California to visit his family. Since they are so far away we do not get to see them every year so when we do get out there it is good to see all of them. This year was very special since his sister from Washington was coming to visit the day we were to leave and we had not seen her for 7 years, so we lengthened our vacation by one day so all of his family could be together for one day. As with any trip that I go on, what I enjoy most about it is the people that I get to visit and the new sights I get to discover. Saying that, I should enjoy every day as a vacation since in our offices we always get to meet new people and discover new situations to explore.

##



Jena Epperson
Ralls County

We are blessed to live within 20 minutes of the Mark Twain Lake. Add a 20' speed boat and a family that loves the water and you have a perpetual vacation! We spend most Sundays during the boating season happily cruising the Lake, up to our chins in the Lake, or water skiing and tubing. What I enjoy even more than these outings is when one or more of our kids bring a friend and we get to "teach" them to ski! What fun to watch them go from a flailing ball of arms and legs to a pro in no time at all! My brother-in-law has a boat, too, so we celebrate many special events on the Lake. My most special memory would have to be the 4th of July party we had with another brother-in-law included. Shortly thereafter, he was diagnosed with cancer and in no time at all he passed from this earth to heaven. I cannot express how much that boating party meant to the rest of us.

##



Paula McCoy
Livingston County

There is nothing that I like better than telling you about the most precious children that I went to see in New Jersey - my grandchildren]. Our daughter Julie and her husband were expecting their third child and I tried to plan my vacation to witness the blessed event.... but I missed it again! Baby daughter Meesha arrived 1 week before I got there! They also have a son Zain (4) and daughter Mahlia (2). There is no place else that I would rather be than spending my vacation with them. I go out once or twice a year and they plan a trip to Missouri in the summer to spend time with us, their great grandparents, and cousins. Her brother Brent (from Springfield) plans a trip up home so that her children can play with their cousins from Missouri. Unfortunately, this was one of the worst winters the northeast has had in a very long time, but I didn't mind though since I love spending time inside with my little ones. The older two children loved playing games and having Nani read books to them. And the newborn enjoyed me just rocking and spoiling her!

##



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Heather Reynolds



Heather, Jarrod & Jacob

Profile: Johnson County's Heather Reynolds

Ever wonder what possesses our members to seek political office? Seems to be a different story for each treasurer. Johnson County Treasurer Heather Reynolds was happily busy pursuing education and enjoying her job without much thought of politics. Then she happened to meet a state representative, began working on a political campaign, and was hooked on politics. Heather received her finance degree from University of Central Missouri and began her career in banking. Seeking still more education, she obtained a marketing degree as well from UCM and broadened her career by working in real estate. After her introduction to politics, Heather weathered a tumultuous campaign and was elected in 2012.

When asked about her opinion of her job, Heather replied, "I love it. I love the people I work with and I really enjoy working with the public." Heather feels fortunate to have a good working relationship with elected officials and staff around the courthouse. Her own staff includes one full-time deputy –

something for which she is also grateful.

Life away from the courthouse has also been fortunate. She married Jarrod in 2011. Jarrod works for the county's road department and in his spare time farming corn and soybeans. She has a stepson, Jacob, who is 19. Family is important to Heather and with a very large extended family there is much to appreciate. Rounding out the family picture are her five dogs (border collies and an Australian shepherd mix) which have litters about twice a year. Arf!



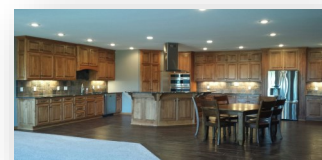
Heather also finds importance in attending and volunteering for her



Northside Christian

church, Northside Christian. A memorable moment was in 2000 when, "My father, mother, brother, his wife and I were baptized in a single ceremo-

ny." Heather's work for the church includes volunteering for the early childhood center, Compassion International and helping with social greeting. She also serves on the local board of the Big Brothers Big Sisters.



Another passion of Heather's is design. Fashion design? No. Architectural design! The Reynolds' century plus-old farmhouse needed replacing and Heather, coming from a family of construction contractors, drew up no fewer than 8 plans before perfecting the design along with Jarrod of the home in which they now enjoy. The dated corn-pellet stove that only heated the living room has now been replaced by a contemporary earth contact home. And now Heather as the perfect nest to read the mystery, romance, and fantasy books she enjoys. And the occasional farm magazine.



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"County Treasurers are administrative, not ministerial - no one should run your office but you."

-Jim Platt
Bates County

Update: Professional Services Fund

MCTA's Professional Services Fund is closer to emerging thanks to the deliberations of its exploratory committee members. Those include Chair Jim Platt (Bates), Penny Henry (Randolph), Rick Renno (Benton) and Rob Willard (Platte). Of its deliberations, Jim said, "I am happy with our progress, and we have covered useful ground regarding scope and funding issues." He highlighted the

committee's recommendations which were also presented at MCTA's Annual Conference last year in Excelsior Springs: Start-up funding of \$20,000, a final fund balance of \$80k-100k, appointment of an advisory committee consisting of the same members as the exploratory committee, limit-



ing eligible legal assistance to those requests that effect many, if not all, county treasurers, and, lastly, raising membership dues to complete funding. The committee's recommendations and deliberations have had once central focus, described by Rob Willard as, "Funding the ability to have independent legal counsel when it is most needed."

MCTA Board to Appoint New CERF Representative

With the reluctant departure of County Employees' Retirement Fund (CERF) Board



**COUNTY EMPLOYEES'
RETIREMENT FUND**

representative Nicole Galloway, the MCTA Board is preparing to appoint her replacement whose term expires December 31, 2017. MCTA President Steve Cheslik sent an email on April 17th to all MCTA members regarding

this opening. In that email he encouraged those who are interested in serving on the CERF Board of Directors to submit (in Word file) your biographical details to him by Friday, May 1st. Bio details should focus on the following items: 1) basic personal information like your county, how long in office, any other personal data you think may be helpful for the board to know; 2) why you want to serve on the CERF Board; and 3) any experience/

credentials that you believe has helped to prepare you for serving on the CERF Board. After applicants have submitted their bios Steve said he, "...will send out a list of candidate names to the entire association. Then, if an MCTA member so desires, he/she may lobby your MCTA Board members to choose his/her favorite candidate." For the specific responsibilities of serving on the CERF Board, see Steve's 4/17/15 email to MCTA members.

Extra Membership Directories Available

Notice anything new in your mailbox last week? The 2015 MCTA Membership Directories were mailed to all MCTA members in early April. If you did not receive yours, please contact Eric at epeters@colecounty.org or call 573.634.9121. And if you want an extra directory you may request one from the same email. There are limited

copies left, so first come first served!

The next issue of the membership directory will most likely include cell phone numbers for those who wish to provide it. In the meantime, any suggestions on improving our association's directory can be directed to Eric or to any Board member.



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The purpose of the **Missouri County Treasurers' Association** is to bring about a closer and more cooperative relationship among Missouri's County Treasurers, and to afford opportunities for its members; to obtain a broader and more practical knowledge of the duties and powers of their offices; to study and discuss questions and laws relating to their offices; to thoroughly investigate any contemplated legislation that in any way affects the office of County Treasurer; and to strive at all times to give to the office of County Treasurer the high standing among the county offices of the State to which it belongs.

Message from President Cheslik

I was racking my brain to find a topic for this quarter's president's message when the news of Nicole Galloway's appointment as State Auditor broke. The ideas I had been pondering seemed to pale in comparison to this wonderful news. Therefore, let's think about what this means... Nicole has meant so much to our organization over the years. When she first took office as Boone County Treasurer in 2011 she tackled the difficult task of researching every Missouri statute that has anything to do with being a county treasurer. We all enjoy the fruits of that labor with the statute listings and corresponding links that we can refer to on the MCTA website and in the Membership Directory. **Thank you, Nicole!** Also, when we had a vacancy to fill on the CERF Board, Nicole submitted a resume that was unbelievably impressive. In fact, I remember Phelps County Treasurer Carol Green saying, quite prophetically by the way, "Steve, have you seen Nicole Galloway's resume. I think 'this girl' is state office material!" Nicole has represented us well on the CERF Board. **Thank you, Nicole!** Finally, due to office holder turnover our association had lost its long time "Pie Day Organizer." Well, Nicole stepped up to the plate (no pun intended) and oversaw a very successful Pie Day earlier this year. **Thank you, Nicole!**

We will obviously miss Nicole. However, one thing I have learned during my tenure as MCTA president is that Missouri County Treasurers step up whenever needs arise and work needs to get done. I have no doubt the same will happen this time. So, some opportunities to serve are out there. If you are interested in serving on the CERF Board, let me know. The MCTA Board will be going through a selection process soon. If Pie Day sounds like something you would like to take on, contact me or 1st Vice President Lori Smith (Adair). Finally, let's remember we will have a new treasurer in Boone County. If you signed up to be a treasurer mentor and you live in a 1st class county near Boone, I may be contacting you to help show the newly appointed treasurer the ropes (though something tells me the office will be left in great shape and the new treasurer will have a smooth transition).

One last thing, the MCTA Conference (September 9-11) is coming together nicely. I will be sending out hotel room registration information in May and conference registration sometime in June. As always, let me know if you have any questions or concerns.



Announcements

Our prayers are with Frankie Stewart (Pemiscot) and her family as they mourn the passing of Frankie's father, Frank "Frank-Daddy" Pierce, aged 87. Memorial contributions may be made to Wesleyan Church of Caruthersville, Missouri.



Our prayers are also with Rick Renno (Benton) and his family whose brother,

Chuck Renno, passed away on April 8th, due to injuries sustained in an accident. Memorial contributions may be made to the Renno Scholarship Fund. Cards may be sent to Rick's office.

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