



ETCOG HAPPENINGS

RETIREMENT OF CLAUDE ANDREWS

ETCOG's faithful Area Agency on Aging leader, Claude Andrews, retired on December 30th after nearly 38 years of service. To honor Claude, a reception was hosted at Arabella Manor in East Mountain on Friday, January 27th for co-workers, friends and family (Pictured right on front and back). Approximately 125 guests were in attendance to extend their best wishes. As our Executive Director and many individuals expressed, Claude has been a pleasure to work with at ETCOG. He has shown commitment, honesty and integrity from day one on June 24, 1974. Claude's leadership and management of the Aging division has made a lasting impact on ETCOG and touched many lives in the senior population of East Texas. Claude's legacy at ETCOG will continue to be a motivation for our employees and organization. We wish him well in his retirement and as many noted; it's time for more fishing!

NEW RPO & CEO BOARD CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Judges Dean Fowler (Upshur County) and Thomas Cravey (Camp County) have been elected to serve in new dual roles of Chair and Vice Chair of the ETCOG Rural Planning Organization and the Chief Elected Officials Board. Both boards are consisted of the county judges from each of the 14 counties served by ETCOG, Mayor Jay Dean and Mayor Barbara Bass, and the three TxDOT engineers that serve the ETCOG region.

"The formation of the RPO and commensurate Transportation Coalition will help ensure that East Texas is well-represented at the state and federal levels. Our counties are always stronger together than standing alone. Judge Fowler and Judge Cravey will do a fantastic job leading these boards. I am very excited about the future," said David Cleveland.

The boards will meet quarterly on the 4th Thursday of the months of January, April, July and October to address the business of both the RPO and CEO Board in a blended meeting.

POLICE ACADEMY TRAINING TOTALS

The following are totals by county which were spent training Sheriff's Offices, Police Departments, EMC Offices, Constables, DA's Fire Departments, etc.

County	Total	Attendees
Anderson	\$9,151	321
Camp	\$2,536	58
Cherokee	\$7,938	136
Gregg	\$47,782	836
Harrison	\$14,485	196
Henderson	\$30,179	387
Marion	\$3,316	55
Panola	\$7,215	77
Rains	\$1,004	21
Rusk	\$11,760	222
Smith	\$24,834	342
Upshur	\$6,842	207
Van Zandt	\$9,864	160
Wood	\$7,178	104
Total	\$192,860	3,446

ACHIEVEMENTS



EGRANTS DEADLINE APPROACHING FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE FUNDING

Communications were sent to all regional public safety contacts with the following information in early December. ETCOG also hosted a series of grant application workshops. Reminder: Local governments, independent school districts, and non-profit organizations now have the opportunity to apply for grant funds from the Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division. Continuation applicants and potential new applicants in ETCOG's fourteen (14) county region must have attend at least one grant application workshop, hosted by the ETCOG Public Safety division in January.

Grant funding is available for the following programs: General Victims Assistants (VOCA) - Direct Services Program; Violent Crimes Against Women Criminal Justice and Training Projects - Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Cating Violence, and Stalking (VAWA); General Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Programs (JJDP) and Criminal Justice Programs (SF-421). The application period opened on the eGrants site <https://cjdonline.governor.state.tx.us/fundopp.aspx> on 12/16/2011 and applications are due to the Governor's Office Criminal Justice Division before midnight on 2/24/2011.

eGrants applications for VOCA, VAWA, JJDP and JAG are due to the Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division, submitted and certified, before midnight on February 24, 2012.

CERTIFIED OMBUDSMAN TRAINING

The Area Agency on Aging Ombudsman Program will be having two training events for certified volunteer ombudsman. The first will be on Tuesday, February 21st at the East Texas Council of Alcohol and Drug Addiction building, 708 Glencrest, Longview. The second will be on Thursday, February 23rd at First United Methodist Church, 225 Lovers Lane, Athens. Both will begin at 9:30 a.m., include lunch and are scheduled to end at 3:30. The training is designed to meet the 12 hours continuing education requirements for annual certification.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Board of Director's Meeting

Anderson County
Hosted at Ben E. Keith Distribution Center
in Palestine, TX

Thursday, March 22, 2012
Registration starts at 11:30
Invitation to follow

East Texas Council of Governments

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