

9/16/74
JW
7.5m

L-1248

THE COUNTY OFFICIALS PROGRAM

*Making the Services of the V. G. Young
Institute of County Government Available to...*

TEXAS' ELECTED COUNTY OFFICIALS

**Texas Agricultural Extension Service
The Texas A&M University System
John E. Hutchison, Director, College Station, Texas**

Helping Texas' county officials become more effective public servants is the task of the V. G. Young Institute of County Government. This pioneer program, known as the County Officials Program, operates as a part of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service of the Texas A&M University System. The Institute was named in honor of the late V. G. Young, who in his capacity as Assistant Director of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, established in 1956 the first regular program of informal education for the leaders of Texas' county governments.

Regular activities of the County Officials Program include sponsorship of statewide and regional conferences and development of publications of current interest, together with personal and individual assistance to Texas' county officials.

Annually, on the campus of Texas A&M University, county officials from all sections of the state meet for two days to discuss topics of primary importance to the functions of their respective offices. In recent years programs have been held for county judges and commissioners, county and district clerks and county treasurers.

Staff members of the County Officials Program work closely with elected officers of the various associations of county officials in planning and presenting conference programs that are both relevant and enlightening. Featured speakers include outstanding leaders in Texas government, the academic world and private industry.

Many Texas counties have hosted regional Institute workshops, seminars and other training programs. The success of these educational endeavors at the regional level clearly indicates the importance of the continued availability of training of this type in various localities throughout Texas.

Maintaining a flow of usable publications is a major educational goal of the County Officials Program. Bound copies of conference proceedings, periodic newsletters and a variety of pamphlets have been provided to help officials better inform themselves and the public concerning their role in local government. Certain popular publications also are available in Spanish translation to help officials better inform their Spanish speaking constituents.



Assistant Texas Attorney General J. C. Davis, a frequent participant on Institute programs, addresses the 16th Annual County Judges and Commissioners Conference at Texas A&M University. Dallas County Judge W. L. "Lew" Sterrett, foreground, awaits his time to address the conferees.



An overflow crowd of conferees gathered for the opening sessions of the 2nd Annual County and District Clerks Seminar.

Harris County District Clerk Ray Hardy questions a speaker at a recent County and District Clerks Seminar.



Pauline Ancell, County Treasurer of Gaines County, registers at the 2nd Annual County Treasurers Conference.



State Senator Jack Ogg of Houston discusses Constitutional Revision with Texas' County and District Clerks.



County Judges and Commissioners listen and take notes during a recent annual conference.



Dr. Arthur V. Wolfe, Associate Professor of Management at Texas A&M University, gives a brief chart demonstration of job classification to the 2nd Annual County Treasurers Conference.



Galveston County Tax Assessor-Collector C. R. Johnson, foreground, listens with Rebel Henson, Coryell County Clerk, at a recent conference on county government.



Secretary of State Mark W. White and members of his staff assist Matagorda County Clerk Hilma S. Huit with an Election Code problem during a break at the recent County and District Clerks Seminar.

Extension personnel at the state, district and county levels exist as a point of contact for Texas' county officials in making the resources of The Texas A&M University System available in an expanded program of training and assistance for local government. Staff members of the County Officials Program welcome opportunities to personally respond to inquiries and requests for assistance which may be expressed by any elected county official.

For further information please contact:
Charles E. Lawrence
County Officials Program Leader
Texas Agricultural Extension Service
Room 5, System Building
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843 (713/845-2672)

Educational programs conducted by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service serve people of all ages regardless of socio-economic levels, race, color, sex, religion or national origin.

Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, The Texas A&M University System and the United States Department of Agriculture cooperating. Distributed in furtherance of the Acts of Congress of May 8, 1914, as amended, and June 30, 1914.