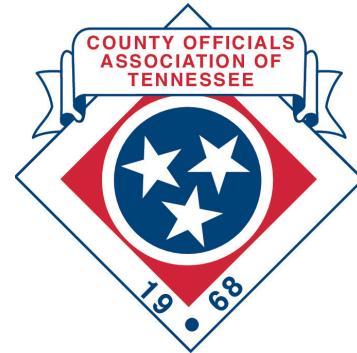


COAT QUARTERLY



YOUR COAT PRESIDENTS

Association President

Lily Barnes - Hardeman
County Register of Deeds

County Clerks Association President

Mary Gaither - Tipton
County Clerk

Court Clerks Association President

Kathy Blount - Madison
County Circuit Court Clerk

Registers of Deeds Association President

Heather Dawbarn -
Rutherford County Register
of Deeds

Trustees Association President

Bill Hullander - Hamilton
County Trustee

50th Annual COAT Convention

Get ready COAT members!! This year's convention is going to be **BIG**! Since it is our 50th Annual Convention, your COAT Team is working hard to make it extra special for you! We will be at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center in Nashville on November 5, 6, & 7. There will be excellent music and entertainment, delicious food, educational opportunities, vendors for shopping, and lots of fun!! Make your reservations now by calling (800) 429.5673. Be sure to give the "Mini Hotel Discount Code" **COA** to receive your room at our discounted rate of \$196 per night. We will be sending out more information about this year's convention via email later this week.

1st Annual Regional Meetings

This year, COAT hosted our 1st Annual Regional Meetings in Jackson on March 15-16, Murfreesboro on March 20-21, and Knoxville on March 22-23. They were a huge success with over 250 in actual attendance, an increase of 227% over last year's County Government Day. Participants received up to 10 hours of re-certification credit and had the opportunity to mingle with others in their region. We hope to increase attendance next year and see even more of you involved! Finally, we would like to send a HUGE thank you to eGovernment Solutions for providing breakfast for day 2 for all three regional meetings!! The food was excellent and we appreciate your support!!!



COAT REGIONAL PRESIDENTS

East TN

County Clerks: Jeff Cole -
Anderson County Clerk

Court Clerks: Mike Hammond
- Knox County Criminal Court
Clerk

Registers of Deeds: Sheena
Tinsley - Sullivan County
Register of Deeds

Trustees: Gina Burchfiel - Polk
County Trustee

Middle TN

County Clerks: Teresa Gupton
- Cheatham County Clerk

Court Clerks: Lisa Simmons -
Lincoln County Circuit Court
Clerk

Registers of Deeds: Donna
Toney - Coffee County Register
of Deeds

Trustees: Glynda Pendergrass -
Dickson County Trustee

West TN

County Clerks: Fred
Birmingham - Madison County
Clerk

Court Clerks: Regina
VanCleave - Weakley County
Clerk & Master

Registers of Deeds: Greg
Summar - Lauderdale County
Register of Deeds

Trustees: Randi French - Henry
County Trustee

Legislative Update

The 110th General Assembly resumed on January 9th, 2018. COAT has partnered with members in both parties and both chambers to work on legislation that influences the offices of the County Clerk, Court Clerk, Register of Deeds, and Trustee.

A few of the many successful stances from this session have included:

- *County Clerks* - success with SB2184/HB2029 which earmarks \$3.00 from a \$15.00 fee for obtaining a new business license to be retained by county clerks for data processing expenses.
- *Court Clerks* - success with SB1716/HB1784 that requires the form garnishment notice be changed to conform to current law. That law states a garnishment creates a lien on wages until the judgment is satisfied or for six months, whichever occurs first.
- *Registers of Deeds* - successfully pushed SB1482/HB1538, repealing the requirement that the register of each county must submit, for examination, all records to the county legislative body each year.
- *Trustees* - succeeded with SB1675/HB1496, providing the continued eligibility of property tax relief for qualifying applicants during temporary periods of confinement in a nursing home or hospitalization, so long as the applicant intends to return to the residence upon recovery.

With the 110th General Assembly planning to adjourn mid to late April, COAT will continue to work on legislation on the behalf of our membership until the final gavel later this month. It has been an excellent session and we look forward to working with the Legislators during next year's session.

New COAT Location

Same building, same floor, new office! Please make note of our new address:

**226 Capitol Boulevard
Suite 200
Nashville, TN 37219**

We now have a conference room for your use if you are ever in town and need a place to work or meet with colleagues - or if you just want to come for a visit! We would love to see you!!



AFFILIATE STATE MEETINGS

County Clerks

May 16 - 18, 2018

Courtyard by Marriott -
Collierville
4640 Merchants Park Circle
Collierville, TN 38017

Court Clerks

May 2 - 4, 2018

Chattanooga Convention
Center
1150 Carter Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402

Registers of Deeds

May 15 - 17, 2018

The Sewanee Inn
1235 University Avenue
Sewanee, TN 37375

Trustees

May 22 - 25, 2018

The Chattanooga Hotel
1201 Broad Street
Chattanooga, TN 37402

COAT Housekeeping

Your County Officials Association of Tennessee has completed their 2017 tax return. Per our Association by-laws, that document is available upon request. Please contact our office at 615.253.6700 if you would like a copy.

Just for Fun

Things you may not know about April...

1. April is named after the Greek goddess of love, Aphrodite. In the Roman calendar, the fourth month April is spelled Aprilis, meaning "to open." Festivals which were planned for April included Parrilla, a day celebrating the founding of Rome. The name *Aprilis*, then, fits April, because in so many places in the northern hemisphere - April is the month when trees and flowers begin to bloom and go on to flower.
2. Two flowers signify the month of April: the daisy and the sweet pea. The daisy symbolizes innocence, loyal love, and purity; but it also means "I'll never tell!" There are more than 90 varieties of flowers that are called daisies and they come in red, yellow, purple, orange, blue, and pink colored petals, and vary widely in size. But they are, as director/writer Nora Ephron once wrote, "the friendliest flower." The sweat pea signifies blissful pleasure, and are used to say goodbye. Sweet peas may be a pretty flower, but they are also one of the oldest food crops on our planet, domesticated by humans about 11,000 years ago.
3. In the United States of America, there were four Presidents who were born in the month of April. The thing is, there were also 4 US Presidents who died in the month of April. Moreover, in the United Kingdom, there were 3 Prime Ministers who have April as their birth month. The interesting part is, there were also 3 of UK's Prime Ministers who passed away in this month.
4. The birthstone for people born in April is the diamond, one of the hardest substances on earth and one that forms deep in the earth. The word diamond comes from the early Greek word *adamas*, meaning untamable and related to our word adamant. That's because the Greeks knew a tough customer when they saw one! Among the earliest historical mentions of diamonds is found in the book of Exodus, where diamond (jahalom in Hebrew) is mentioned as one of twelve engraved precious stones set in the breastplate of the high priest. Diamonds are said to bring all kinds of benefits to their owners, supposedly leading the wearer to experience better relationships and an increase in inner strength. They are supposed to bring balance, clarity, and abundance. They are symbolic of eternal love and have been the bringer of wealth to six centuries of the diamond trade.