TCCE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2022

News, Information & Resources for Texas Chamber Professionals.

2022 TCCE CONFERENCE

More than 200 Texas Chamber Executives gathered in Rockwall for the 2022 Conference. It was three full days of professional development, networking and fun! Check out the great photos that captured the successful event. Be sure and check out the Award Recipients in the following pages and celebrate the best in our industry.

View more photos from this year's conference HERE!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

*The 2023 TCCE Annual Conference will be hosted by **Odessa** on June 2023.*

Chairman's Spotlight

I hope you all had a great time and took away at least a couple of gold nuggets from the TCCE Annual Conference in beautiful Rockwall last month. Those who were unable to make it, I hope you have lingering FOMO! Continue to enrich your knowledge though experts like Michael Gellman, CPA, CGMA. I first met Michael in Los Angeles in a US Chamber Institute for Organizational Management (IOM) classes. Michael specializes in non-profit finance. I'm spotlighting his article about communicating difficult budget issues to your board. If you haven't had to do it, congratulations! If you have, I hope you survived.

Three Tactics for Communicating Difficult Budget Issues

By Michael Gellman, CPA, CGMA

Difficult budget issues can often arise quickly and unexpectedly. To maintain a high level of trust with your nonprofit organization's Board and remain transparent, collaborative, and inclusive, be sure to communicate in a timely and thoughtful manner. To have effective budget and financial communications with a Board, you must focus on building confidence and trust. When confidence is strong and trust is high, difficult discussions evolve into constructive and collaborative conversations. Regular, interactive communication with your Board is the key to keeping confidence and trust high. Always try to avoid random, unexpected communications as they foster feelings of unease that bad news is coming and important information has been withheld. Use these three strategies to communicate difficult budget issues, improve message delivery, and encourage positive collaboration.

1. Monthly Financial Reporting

Establishing monthly communication patterns is the key to success. Do not rely only on communicating budget and financial information and reports just before Board and finance committee meetings.

2. Regular Check-Ins

After regular monthly financial reporting, the best tactic for sharing difficult budget issues is to have regular check-ins with the Board chair and treasurer. Use multiple messaging channels, including regularly scheduled conference calls, emails, and text messages. Plan to favor verbal two-way communications for complex and perceived difficult budget issues. Verbal messaging opportunities, while appearing less formal, encourage two-way sharing of comments, probing questions, and ideas for tactics and solutions. These tactics will help you better tailor communications to satisfy Board member expectations and concerns.

3. Priority Messaging

Finally, be prepared and plan for the unexpected. Have protocols in place for when a difficult budget issue arises that can be consistently applied depending on the priority level of the evolving circumstances. Like disaster action plans, have trigger mechanisms in place to message senior management-driven action alerts, key Board Officer or executive committee notifications, and updates to the entire Board.

READ THE FULL ARTICLE HERE

A. Michael Gellman, CPA, CGMA
FS4N - Fiscal Strategies 4 Nonprofits, LLC - www.fs4nonprofits.com
SE4N - Sustainability Education 4 Nonprofits - www.se4nonprofits.com
Open Access New Content and Resources Posted Every Week

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TEXAS CHAMBER of COMMERCE EXECUTIVES

To learn more about membership, events, sponsorships, or additional information, visit us at tcce.org.

YOUR PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY

2022 Tenure Award Recpients

5 Years

Gloria Martinez - Weatherford Chamber of Commerce
Paula Davis - Odessa Chamber of Commerce
Michael Gallops - Rowlett Chamber of Commerce
Nohemi Sanchez - Andrews Chamber of Commerce
Shelley Corrales - Greenville Chamber of Commerce
Bonnie Geddie - Henderson Area Chamber of Commerce
Danielle Nicole Rodriguez - Brownsville Chamber of Commerce
Esmeralda Villarreal - Brownsville Chamber of Commerce
Efrain Franco - United Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce
Gloria Fuentes - United Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce
Ginny Cross - United Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce
Kresten Cook - United Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce

10 Years

Leslie Martone - Cy-fair Chamber of Commerce
Kelita Thomas - Giddings Chamber of Commerce
Matthew Ferraro - Katy Area Chamber of Commerce
Kristin Weiss - Central Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce
Steve Martin - Duncanville Chamber of Commerce

15 Years

July Danley - Stephenville Chamber of Commerce
Rosemary Vega - Aransas Pass Chamber of Commerce
Kelly Heslep - Flower Mound Chamber of Commerce

20 Years

Dianna L. Harvill - South Padre Island Chamber of Commerce
Kathi Vaughn - Odessa Chamber of Commerce
Misty Berry - Decatur Chamber of Commerce

35 Years

Phyllis Foerster - Greater New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce
Terri Bolin - Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce

40 Years

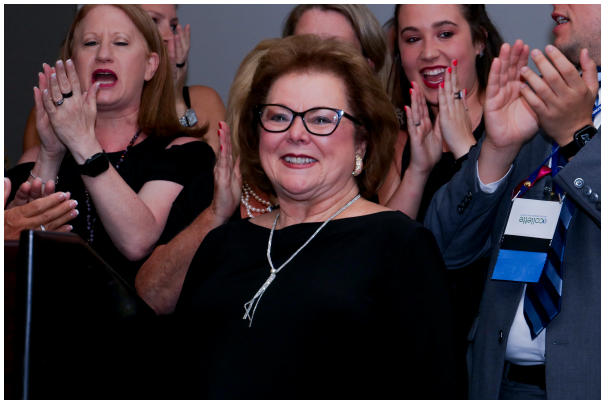
Donna Hargrave - Brazosport Chamber of Commerce

45 Years

Sandra Shaw - Brazosport Chamber of Commerce

If you or a team member from your Chamber was awarded a Tenure Award but did not pick it up in Rockwall, email Drew at dscheberle@txbiz.org and we can arrange to get your UPS number to ship it to you or have you pick it up at Chamber Basics September 15th in Sugar Land.

50 YEARS OF SERVICE AT THE CHAMBER



Tracey Wheeler - Baytown Chamber of Commerce

President & CEO Tracey Wheeler is celebrating 50 years with the Baytown Chamber of Commerce - What an amazing accomplishment! Tracey is a graduate of the US Chamber of Commerce Institute for Organizational Management (IOM). She attended the SMU course that covered a six-year study program, as well as seven years of post-graduate study. She has completed numerous seminars and min-courses in Management and Communication. Tracey is a native Baytonian, and started as the Chamber as the Membership Director for six years prior to serving in her current position for the past 44 years. Tracey was honored at the TCCE Conference by all those attending, as well as her special friends and colleagues with the Gulf Coast Chambers. Congratulations Tracey – you set the bar high for others to follow!

MEDIA AWARD RECIPIENTS

Texas Chambers of Commerce are recognized each year for outstanding marketing and communications work through the Texas Chamber of Commerce Executive's (TCCE) Communication Award Program. Submissions were reviewed by an expert panel of judges who select a limited number of entries to be named as award winners. Entries were be based on work completed between January 1, 2021 and December 31, 2022. View the award recpients below.

2022 Media Award Winners

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS

Texas Chambers of Commerce is proud to recognize several outstanding achievements made by Texas Chamber of Commerce Executive's this year. These achievements include; TEXANS honored for 40 Under 40 throughout the United States, 2021- 2022 CCCE Graudates, 2021-2022 IOM Graduates, and our newest Accredited Chambers.

View the Full Story Here

MARVIN HURLEY AWARD WINNER

The highest honor in the Texas Chamber industry went to **Beth Journeay**, interim CEO for the Beaumont Chamber of Commerce, for her massive contributions to the Chamber industry.

Watch Her Tribute Video Here

ART ROBERTS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Given as a special honor by the immediate past chair, our 2022 winners are **Cindy DeWease**, CEO of Clear Lake Chamber & **Diane Probst**, CEO, Rockport-Fulton Chamber.

UPCOMING EVENTS

TCCE CHAMBER BASICS (SUMMER) / SUGAR LAND

SEP 15, 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM CDT
SUGAR LAND, SUGAR LAND, TX, USA

FOR THOSE NEW TO THE PROFESSION, EXCELLENT EDUCATION TO GET YOU READY FOR YOUR CHAMBER CAREER!

TCCE CHAIRMAN'S VOLUNTEER CONFERENCE / GEORGETOWN

OCT 27, 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM CDT

DESIGNED FOR CHAMBER CEOS, CHAIRMAN AND VOLUNTEER LEADERS; CHAMBER STAFF AND BOARD LEADERS LEARN TO SYNERGIZE FOR MAXIMUM EFFECTIVENESS

TCCE ANNUAL CONFERENCE / ODESSA

JUNE 2023

SAVE THE DATE AND MAKE PLANS TODAY TO JOIN COLLEAGUES FROM AROUND THE STATE FOR THE 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE! THIS WILL BE AN EVENT YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS.

To learn more about our events visit https://www.tcce.org/events

TEXAS CHAMBER of COMMERCE EXECUTIVES

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YOUR PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY

Board Recognition!

Diane Probst, IOM, CCE

CHAMBER: Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce

TITLE: President/CEO

TCCE BOARD POSITION: VP of Communications

INTERESTING FACT: I am 100% Italian.

Dream VACATION: Galapago Islands

TOP THREE BUCKET LIST ITEMS: Travel to Germany to visit the town my husband's ancestors originated from, take a culinary course in Italian cooking, and write my third book.

FAVORITE CHAMBER MEMORY: Wearing five Super Bowl rings on one hand at a photo shoot with Rocky Bleier of the Pittsburgh Steelers while attending ACCE.

FIVE WORDS TO DESCRIBE YOURSELF: Hard worker, dedicated, loving, humble and kind.

HOBBIES/INTERESTS: Working out at Rising Tide Gym.

FAVORITE THING ABOUT WORKING FOR THE CHAMBER IN YOUR COMMUNITY: Being able to impact so many things in such a huge way.

WORDS TO LIVE BY: Always be humble and kind.

After 32 years with her Chamber, Diane will be retiring in August. Thank you, Diane, for your many contributions to the Chamber profession and TCCE over the many decades. Enjoy your well-deserved time off!

Join us as we celebrate the work of the chamber network through media coverage, promotional events, increased public awareness, and activities designed to communicate the value of Chambers of Commerce to the local economy and community as a whole.

Follow the link below for sample resources to help your chamber organize its chamber week events.

Click Here for Chamber Week Resources

WHAT IS CHAMBER WEEK?

Chamber Week (October 17-21) is a celebration of the contributions and dedication of Chambers of Commerce and the professional staff that serve them.

Mission:

To help celebrate the work of Chambers of Commerce throughout Texas through a week of media coverage, promotional events, increased public awareness and activities designed to communicate the va ue of Texas Chambers of Commerce to the local economy and community as a whole.

Target Audiences:

- Local business community
- Elected officials (city, county, state)
- Current and prospective Chamber members
- General public

Newsletter Credits and Contributions:
TCCE Vice Chair of Communications: **DIANE PROBST, CCE, IOM**

Design and Layout: **ALLISON GRAY** with

ODESSA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Have something you want to contribute?
Email Diane Probst at president@1rockport.org