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Visit our Website:

www.WMCAClerks.org

Founded in 1970, WMCA is a non-profit association that promotes the professional and education standards of Municipal Clerks, County Clerks, and Transit Board Clerks in various local governments of the State of Washington.

President's Message

Scott Passey, MMC

It's a beautiful and HOT July in Washington State! Everyone knows that WMCA clerks are pretty cool people, but I suspect we'll have to find creative ways to keep extra cool this summer! My family will not be taking a vacation outside the state because we realized (after many years of vacationing near the equator in sweltering heat) that Washington is the most beautiful place for a summer vacation!

WMCA clerks are also cool because they understand the importance of education and professional development. I'm pleased to report that the WMCA had been actively engaged in successful education and marketing efforts. We had more clerks attend Professional Development I classes than in any previous year. WMCA also had a member of the Executive Committee attend the AWC conference, where we were able to advocate for clerks and our interests.



Finally, here's a quick story that serves as a good metaphor for WMCA clerks and the work we do. Last month I decided to drive my car to the Local Government Management Association (LGMA) conference in British Columbia instead of flying. The drive was beautiful and showcased the evergreen splendor of the Pacific Northwest. Suddenly, from out of nowhere, a doe ("a deer, a female deer") charged from out of the brush and ran into the highway. I swerved to the right, trying to avoid a frontal collision, and luckily got in front of her – barely. She hit the side of my car with such force that it folded the side mirror and broke the passenger door handle. Although I'm encouraging a "Seek and Destroy" attitude this year, this is not the kind of destruction I'm searching for.

I looked in the rear-view mirror, fearing the worst, and noticed the deer bounding off into the trees on the other side of the road. To sum up, she ran into my car (which was traveling at 60 mph), bounced off, and kept on going. I think this example perfectly illustrates the clerks in our state: when faced with an obstacle, we bounce back and keep on going. I encourage each of you to keep seeking after those things that will make you stronger and more resilient. And don't forget to destroy those things in your life that prevent you from achieving your full potential. Seek and Destroy!

Scott

ON THE INSIDE...

Scholarship News	Page 2
Fall Academy Update	Page 2
Auction Planning	Page 2
Featured Clerks	Page 3
New Members	Page 5
Region IX Update	Page 5
Fairs & Festivals	Page 5

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

By Dee Roberts, CMC, City Clerk—City of South Bend

The Scholarship and Executive Committees are in the process of revamping the scholarship application process. Please watch for news blasts as the process moves forward. In the meantime...

Fall Academy notice:

Have you obtained your CMC status and are now working towards your MMC? If so, you may be eligible for a Margery Price Scholarship. Please look at the Margery Price Scholarship guidelines on the WMCA website. Applications are due August 13, 2013. For more information, please contact Dee Roberts, City of South Bend at dee.roberts@southbend-wa.gov

FALL ACADEMY UPDATE

By Carol Etgen, MMC, City Clerk — City of Fife

“When the Roles of Advisor and Decision-Maker Intersect”

Instructor – Janice Corbin, Sound Employment Solutions, LLC

Please mark the date on your calendar of Friday, September 27, for Fall Academy in Ellensburg this year. We are thankful to have Janice Corbin joining us for this day-long training where she will share her expertise about the workplace and personnel issues we all run into while walking the tightrope of communicating with fellow staff members, peers, supervisors and our elected officials.

Registration information will be distributed in early July.



CONFERENCE AUCTION PLANNING

By Debbie Jermann, MMC, Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board — C-TRAN

Plan now for your live and silent auction items!

Each year, WMCA members lend a helping hand to each other by donating items for the Live and Silent Auctions held during the Annual Conference. Over the years, we have helped hundreds of our fellow clerks achieve their education goals. Keep WMCA in mind while hitting those garage sales this summer – always a great place to find baskets for auction items!

Auction item suggestions: Gift baskets, garden art, gift certificates (lodging, dining, or events), jewelry, home décor, clothing, wine, art, and many more - use your imagination!

If you need assistance, an idea, etc., contact Debbie Jermann at 360-906-7303 or DEBBIEJ@C-TRAN.ORG

FEATURED CLERK(S)



Sonya Claar Tee, CMC

City Clerk—City of Yakima



Sonya Claar Tee, CMC

Sonya was born in Ellensburg, WA and was raised in Lewiston, ID with one older sister, Laurie, who now lives in Spokane. Sonya's favorite place to visit is on the Salmon River just outside of White Bird, ID where her parents live. She tries to visit there as often as she can, "especially in the summer to enjoy whitewater rafting."

Sonya has been married for five years to husband Robert Tee. She has one child, Lauren age 19 and two step children, Brian Tee age 21 and Lauren Tee age 18, "yes—I have two Lauren's!" Sonya and Robert are part-time empty nesters as Brian just finished his 2nd year and Lauren her 1st year at WSU. Both children are taking AG related courses. Lauren Tee will be attending Whatcom Community College in the fall – "so we will be broke for several years" having all three kids in college.

Sonya has worked for the city of Yakima for 20 years! She has been the City Clerk one year, was Deputy City Clerk over one year, as well as serving 18 years in the City Manager and Mayor's Office. Prior to working for the City of Yakima, she worked in the private sector for a mortgage credit company in Spokane, Bellevue and Phoenix, Arizona. Lately at work Sonya implemented an on-line agenda system, is overseeing a new records management program, revamped contract processing and tracking, and her most recent challenge in the office is a new responsibility for the LEOFF Pension Plan. Sonya is serving on the WMCA Education, Legislation and Conference Planning Committees.

Yakima has a population of 92,620 and is a full service City and had the longest serving City Manager in the State until his retirement in 2011. **(Continued on Page 4)**

Gina Anderson, CMC

City Clerk-Treasurer—City of Woodland



Gina Anderson, CMC, and daughter Sarra going to tea

Gina is a Washington native, born and raised in Vancouver with four brothers. She has been married to husband Jamie for 38 years, wow, you go girl! They have two daughters and two grand-kids: Sarra, 30, Shannon, 29, Atticus, 18 months and very brand newborn Moira Shannon, weighing in at 8 pounds 6 ounces, 20 ¾ inches

long. "She is adorable!"

Prior to her career with the City of Woodland, Gina was self employed as an Accounting Consultant, a Paraprofessional at Moss Adams and an Office Manager at Thunderbird/Red Lion Inn at the Quay. Gina has worked for the city of Woodland for 18 years. Lately, she has been working on the May Financials and an EDA Payment Request.

The city of Woodland has a population of 5,590 and is known for being a Southern gateway to Mt. St. Helens in two counties: Cowlitz & Clark, as well as its Planter's Days, oldest celebration of its kind in the Pacific Northwest and reflects Woodland's passion for tradition. The 91st annual event was held in June.

Planters Days is a four day festival celebrating the completed construction of the dikes along the Columbia and Lewis Rivers preventing the annual flooding in the Woodland area. The festival is family centric, with entertainment for all ages, with a Fireman's Barbecue and the annual Bed Races.

Gina has served on most of our WMCA Committees. She is currently serving as our Treasurer as well as a member of the Scholarship and Membership Committees this year. Her favorite is **(Continued on Page 4)**

Clair Tee — Continued from Page 3

Yakima is wine & hop country, and has recently redeveloped downtown with more exciting plans in the future, Sonya invites everyone over for a visit! “We have it all and close to everything we love – skiing, kayaking, etc.”

Sonya’s favorite color is blue, “always has been, always will be—evidenced by the number of blue clothing items in my closet!” Her favorite food is chicken enchiladas. Sonya enjoys downhill and cross country skiing, kayaking, river rafting, biking and hiking. Sonya and her husband recently finished a bathroom remodel, out with the pink, and is now a proclaimed home remodeler.

“As a relatively new City Clerk, WMCA has been amazing. The wealth of knowledge, assistance and friendship has been a tremendous help to me.”



Clair Tee, left, and City Manager Secretary Cally Price, right, literally provide support to Yakima Mayor Micah Cawley.

Anderson — Continued from Page 3

the Audit Committee “of course”. It is no secret that she loves playing with those numbers! If you haven’t thanked Gina lately for being our Treasurer, please do so, she does an AMAZING job.

Gina’s favorite color is red and her favorite food is fondue. Her special interests include reading, going to tea and spending time with the children and grandchildren. Besides welcoming the new granddaughter, Gina recently celebrated Shannon’s graduation from Law School and went with a friend to tea.



Anderson and grandson Atticus spend time at the Tacoma Children’s Museum.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS!

July
2013

WMCA and the Membership Committee would like to welcome our newest members:

- Affiliate Member – Heather Neff, Black Mountain Software Inc.
- Alicia Dugan, Deputy Clerk Treasurer, Rock Island
- Carolyn Avery, Deputy Clerk of the Board, Jefferson County
- Michelle Converse, HR Coordinator, Sumner
- Maria DeGoede Kerley, Deputy Clerk, LaConner
- Debbie Karber, Deputy City Clerk, Lynnwood
- Lisa Keely, City Clerk, Fircrest
- Susan Kollet, County Council Staff, San Juan County
- Yolanda Peña, Deputy Clerk, Mabton
- Robin Schaefer, Senior Office Assistant, Bothell
- Laura Smedley, Administrative Assistant – Clerk of the Board, Jefferson Transit
- Zennetta N. Young, Deputy City Clerk, SeaTac



Congratulations to our newest Certified Municipal Clerk:
Janine Schnepf, CMC, City of Yelm

CMC

REGION XI DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

By Joann Tilton, MMC, City Clerk, City of Manteca, CA — IIMC Region IX Director

The Region IX Newsletter will be published in early July – please stay tuned for more updates and pictures from the Annual IIMC Conference and Board meeting in Atlantic City and news on what is going on throughout Region IX.

In the meantime, let us know what you are doing for fun this summer!

Joann Tilton, MMC
jtilton@ci.manteca.ca.us

Alice Attwood, CMC
tonasket@nvinet.com

Published by Clerks for Clerks!

If you have any great news to share or ideas for articles for the next edition of the WMCA Newsletter, be sure to email them to Melody Valiant at mvaliant@ci.tumwater.wa.us & Rachel Shaw at rshaw@cityofprosser.com

- Fife Farmers Market**
Fife City Hall/Centennial Park
June 26-August 28
www.cityoffife.org
- Northwest Renaissance Festival**
Nine Mile Falls
July 2-24
www.nwrf.net
- Tacoma Freedom Fair**
Tacoma
July 4
www.freedomfair.com
- Choochokam Arts Festival**
Langley
July 6-7
www.choochokamarts.org
- Olympic Air Show**
Olympia
July 13-14
www.olympicflightmuseum.com/airshow.php
- Sequim Lavendar Festival**
Sequim
July 19-21
www.lavendervestival.com
- Annual Seafair Powwow**
Seattle
July 19-21
www.seafair.com
- Movie in the Park – “Brave”**
Dacca Park, Fife
July 20
www.cityoffife.org
- Sun and Surf Run**
Ocean Shores
July 25-28
www.sunandsurfevent.com
- Whatcom Old Settlers Picnic**
Ferndale
July 25-28
www.whatcomoldsettlers.com
- Bellevue Festival of the Arts**
Bellevue
July 26-28
www.bellevuefest.org
- Tour de Terrace Seafair Festival**
Mountlake Terrace
July 26-28
www.tourdeterrace.org