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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

Last month I was fortunate to attend the Oregon Association of Municipal Recorders' (OAMR) 31st annual conference in North Bend, Oregon. The conference program was excellent, especially the keynote speakers. Those who attended the 2012 WMCA Conference in Chelan might remember the dynamic duo of Bob Wells and Dave Johnson, otherwise known as Chicken Lips. Chicken Lips provided a day-long academy session as well as a keynote address at the OAMR conference. Bob and Dave have been using laughter to achieve innovative results in leadership, communication, teamwork, stress relief, change, motivation, and other areas of professional and personal development. Their improvisation exercises taught focused listening, yielding and cooperating, generating new thinking, moving ideas forward, and celebrating positive attitudes and achievements.

Their presentation, entitled "Leadership and Laughter", was a great reminder to me about the importance of laughter in our daily lives. Did you know that children laugh an average of 300 times per day? Unfortunately, by the time we reach adulthood we only laugh an average of 17 times per day. Something seems to have gone very wrong between childhood and adulthood. I suspect that many of us take ourselves too seriously, and as a result, we miss out on the huge benefits that laughter and a positive mental attitude can bring. Laughter relates directly to leadership too, because great leaders understand the need to inspire, motivate, and encourage as well as lighten the mood when things get too dire. Think of any great mentor, teacher or leader in your personal or professional life, and I'm sure you can also attribute to them a great sense of humor. My long-term goal is to seek more opportunities to laugh and find a sense of humor in the challenging, the difficult, and the mundane.

My last conference prior to the Annual WMCA Conference in Pasco will be in November with the Alaska Association of Municipal Clerks, held in Anchorage, Alaska. I look forward to sharing with you any tidbits of wisdom I can glean from their education sessions. Seek and destroy!

Scott

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REGION IX DIRECTOR'S UPDATE



Alice Attwood, MMC and Joan Tilton, MMC

TRAVELS OF A REGION IX DIRECTOR

The Oregon Association of Municipal Recorders held its 31st annual conference at The Mill Casino in North Bend, Oregon September 18-20. The conference program was great, including an Athenian Dialogue lead by IIMC Past President Mary Lynne Stratta. Norma Alley, Municipal Recorder of Newberg, Oregon took the oath of office as President of OAMR, while Stacie Cook, Municipal Recorder of Mill City, graciously passed the gavel (a rubber mallet). The banquet included a raffle for seven incredible baskets, each one representing a designated region in OAMR. The silent auction was huge and chocked full of fun items. This was followed by a live auction lead by the Mayor of North Bend, as well as a paddle raise championed by Mary Lynne. The paddle raise alone brought in over \$3,000 for scholarships!

The next stop for your IIMC Region IX Directors is Anchorage, Alaska. The Alaska Association of Municipal Clerks annual conference will be held November 17-19. Immediately following the AAMC conference, Alice and I will travel from Anchorage to Savannah, Georgia for the IIMC Mid-Year meeting of the Board of Directors, which will take place November 22nd and 23rd. Once the agenda is set for the Mid-Year, we will share it with all of you. Please take the time to review it and share your thoughts with us.

Should you have any questions regarding your IIMC Membership, certification, or education programs please do not hesitate to contact either of us – we are here to serve you!

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Show Me The Money!!!

\$5.00 Raffle Tickets are available for sale. Our goal is to sell all 1,500 tickets by the drawing at the WMCA Annual Conference Banquet on Thursday, March 20, 2014 at the Red Lion Hotel, Pasco, WA.

*Tickets are \$5.00 each **OR** 5 for \$20 – what a deal!*

Three chances to win: First Drawing is \$500, Second Drawing is \$750, and Third Drawing is \$1,000.

To get your tickets to sell to friends, family, co-workers, and of course yourself, contact:

Debbie Jermann, MMC
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LEGISLATIVE REPORT



By *Sandy Paul, Legislative Committee Chair*

Stand by, WMCA. The real action begins at the first of 2014 unless Governor Inslee calls the legislature into special session which could happen after the election in November to address new transportation revenue for state and local projects, but for certain they'll be back in early January for what's hoped to be a short 60-day session.

Just to bring you up to date, AWC is retooling priorities for the 2014 legislative session. As a reminder, the current AWC legislative agenda was adopted by the Board late last fall for both the 2013 and 2014 legislative sessions. The 76-member Legislative Committee met August 20 in SeaTac to start considering what issues remain or are new. Next, they'll reconvene on September 13 to prepare recommendations to the Board on what, if any, changes to the two-year priority agenda are needed. On September 27, the Board will review and adopt an update, and it will be shared with cities across the state during AWC's Regional Meetings in writing and other forums.

The priority agenda is designed to focus attention, but isn't the full set of issues of cities. There are dozens of other issues on the current agenda and as a result of the recent request asking cities for new issues, more have been submitted for review and consideration. The Legislative Committee will continue to review them and develop updated positions to recommend for final Board approval in late November.

Legislative Committee meeting highlights:

- There was a large and engaged attendance at the kick-off Legislative Committee meeting on August 20 as well as those who called in for the subcommittee meetings in the afternoon.
- Senator Steve Litzow and Representative Chris Hurst shared some straight talk on budget and I-502 (marijuana legalization) realities;
- Washington Roundtable Vice President Neil Strege, Roundtable lobbyist Mike Groesch, and Transpor-

tation Improvement Board Executive Director Steve Gorcester helped outline transportation needs around the state;

- City lobbyist panelists Briahna Taylor, Doug Levy and Mark Brown shared more straight talk and insights about how best to prepare for the 2014 session, and;
- Committee members John Caulfield, Sean Guard and Derek Young reported on the work of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Municipal Finance – a group looking at possible short and longer term “fixes” to how cities raise and spend revenue.

There was a considerable amount of discussion and concern raised about the legislature continuing to retreat from helping support cities where most of the state's residents and businesses live and flourish. Foremost in many members' minds was the legislature's diversion of revenues away from funding any new infrastructure improvement loans through the once healthy Public Works Assistance Account. Also noted was the failure to restore full funding of shared liquor revenue with cities and the lack of attention to restoring the growth factor in liquor revenues which has been available for almost 80 years until eliminated in 2012. There was also a good initial discussion of the pros and cons of looking at changes in how cities are funded and the need to be sensitive to the wide variety of fiscal capacities of cities of all sizes around the state.

NOTE: A very interesting race to watch is in the 26th District which includes the southeastern Kitsap Peninsula (Kitsap and Pierce counties) from Bremerton and Port Orchard in the north to Gig Harbor in the south. Elected state representative Jan Angel (R-position 1) and appointed state senator Nathan Schlicher (D) and are facing each other in what could dramatically change the state senate, depending on the outcome.

FEATURED CLERK

SANDY CHASE City Clerk, Edmonds

One of this month's featured clerks is a farewell to Edmonds City Clerk Sandy Chase who plans to retire at the end of the month. A little note about Sandy... she's passionate about treating others with kindness; looks for opportunities to help others; and she enjoys serving the community.

Sandy's been the City Clerk for the City of Edmonds for the past 20 years and she worked for Chula Vista, California for five years before that. Sandy said she's been married to Chris "for (gulp) 41 years! How is that possible?" For the past ten years, Chris has been in church ministry and he's currently the Community Pastor at North Sound Church in Edmonds (directly behind Edmonds City Hall).



Sandy and Chris have two sons, Jeremy and Ryan. Jeremy is married to Maria and they are missionaries in Cambodia with three little ones: Owen (6 ½), Lucia (5) and Jonas (2 ¾). Sandy noted that they traveled to Asia after the birth of each grandchild...and have an additional trip planned for next January! Ryan is a teacher at Seattle Country Day School and he's married to Teresa. They have one little son named Hudson (14 months). In addition to two sons, the Chase family has "the absolute best dog in the world -- a super sweet/cute Shih Tzu" named Riley. He will be 10 years old on October 24.

Sandy noted one of the first things she did when she was first hired by the City of Edmonds was to join WMCA. She stated, "It was an incredibly valuable resource in learning my new role. I attended numerous training opportunities through the years, conferences and professional development courses. WMCA led me toward my certification with IIMC." Locally, Sandy participated on the board of the Snohomish County Clerks & Finance Officers Association for several years (including President in 2008). Sandy has received numerous awards through the years at the City of Edmonds such as Employee of the Year, Humanitarian Award, and the Distinguished Service Award. In 2000, she received WMCA's "President's Award of Distinction" from Past President Sheryle Wyatt.

When asked about her retirement plans, Sandy said the following: "I cannot point to one thing that I will be doing after leaving the city...it is simply that I want to be able to do all those things I have not been able to do for so long. I want to concentrate on family, friends, church, and community involvement. I am hoping to wake up on November 1st and breathe a sigh of relief that I no longer need to worry if a public hearing notice was published in time, or that I remembered to do that Special Meeting Notice, or I am not looking at 15,000 emails to respond to a public records request. I think it is the right time for me to start a new adventure."

Sandy and Chris plan to remain in Edmonds and spend time at their home on the Oregon coast. They also plan to visit places they have not been to. Sandy, WMCA thanks you for your service and we wish you a happy retirement!

FEATURED CLERK



DEE ROBERTS

Clerk-Treasurer, South Bend



I was born in LaGrande, Oregon and raised in Joseph, Oregon. Right after I graduated from high school in 1977, my parents moved to Raymond, Washington and I moved to Seattle. I went to business school and then went to work. I held many jobs during my 10 years in Seattle including Insurance and banking (British Bank-very interesting). I was manager of the University Travelodge before I moved to Raymond to be close to my parents in 1987 – when my daughter, Breanne, was born.

When Breanne was eight months old, I was hired by Weyerhaeuser to work in their “truck shop” where I tracked loads of logs, kept track of the driver’s time, tracked equipment hours and dispatched log trucks. It was a great job and I meet some of the best people in the whole world. I worked there for almost 10 years before my job was eliminated. I took advantage of some retraining dollars and went to college to study criminal justice. I loved it! I maintained a 3.975 GPA and I was just shy of getting my AA degree when I was offered the deputy clerk/treasurer position at the City of South Bend. I had been working part time on a grant for the South Bend Municipal Court Clerk when the job became available! I have been with the City of South Bend since 1999. I moved into the Clerk/Treasurer position in 2006.

My daughter Breanne (26) works for the City of Raymond as an Administrative Assistant. She has been there for 4 years. My dad Harry passed away in September 2011 and my mom LaPriel in March 2012. They were married 66 years. I have been married to Mike, my very understanding husband, since 1998. We love to travel when we have time. We recently purchased a toy hauler so we can take his beloved motorcycle with us when we go. Mike retired from Weyerhaeuser three years ago and is waiting patiently for the time when we can take off for longer than a weekend! Unfortunately, he has awhile to wait – like 11 years! I have one brother, Larry, who lives with his wife Shirley in Florence, Arizona.



The City of South Bend is considered the Oyster Capital of the World. We have three oyster processing plants in town and at least four more within 10 miles of town. South Bend’s population is 1,860 and the city sits right on Willapa Bay which is considered one of the last pristine bays in the United States. It is truly beautiful and some mornings when I drive to work I don’t think there is any place more breathtaking. We take living here for granted at times. Winters are a bit gray and rainy, but a sunny day makes up for it! I have sat on the Raymond city council located 6 miles from South Bend for about 6 years. I am running unopposed for re-election this year. I have been president of HAVA, Harbors Association of

Volunteers for Animals, for almost three years. HAVA is an animal rescue group. I am treasurer of the Willapa Harbor Health Foundation. The foundation’s mission statement is to solicit, receive, maintain, and disburse for charitable, scientific, or educational purposes for the benefit of Alder House and Willapa Harbor Hospital and to foster health care services to the residents of Pacific County.

This is my second year as chair of the Scholarship Committee. I participate on the fundraising committee as well. My favorite color is red. My favorite food is any seafood – I live on the coast!! I love Halloween. My husband is a great sport because he will wear pretty much whatever I dream up and sometimes it can be pretty crazy!

SILENT AUCTION

AUTUMN SALES – KEEP WMCA IN MIND!

**Don't forget your silent auction item(s)
for the 2014 WMCA Annual Conference.**

Fall sales are on! People are done with back to school shopping and are hanging on to what is left of their dollars in anticipation of the upcoming holiday shopping season. As a result, the stores are offering huge sales to get us in the stores. This could be the best time to pick up a silent auction item for the annual conference.

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 shopping this summer!



WMCA Executive Committee is reviewing information received from interested clerks representing small cities (5,000 or less) to serve with Jill Boltz, City of Poulsbo, on the Washington Archives Oversight Committee (AOC). Duties of AOC members include attending quarterly meetings, recommending awards, advising the archivist on local government issues, and serving as a conduit regarding public records, preservation, and access. Representation on this committee will provide the WMCA membership with current and relevant information from Washington State Archives.

NOMINATE CLERK OF THE YEAR

By Sandy Paul, MMC, Awards Committee

The most prestigious award a WMCA Clerk can receive is that of “Clerk of the Year”. You know several Clerk colleagues who seem to know all the answers, get it all done professionally, stay calm under fire, and always look like they stepped from the pages of *GQ* or *Vogue* Magazines. Compliment him or her and they become embarrassed and say ‘who, me? I didn’t DO anything’.

That may be just the person to nominate for “Clerk of the Year”. The President, as the grande finale of his 2013-2014 term, will award a beautiful trophy and the recognition that is so deserving to accompany it to someone who has been deemed by his/her peers (or supervisors and electeds) to be outstanding in many areas.

Nominees shall be active WMCA members (fully paid dues) for the preceding five consecutive years. The nominee must have made significant contributions or have performed outstanding service to WMCA, to the profession of Municipal Clerk, and to his/her individual municipality in the following areas:

- Leadership, organization, administration and communications
- Legislative and governing body procedures, records management and public relations
- Outstanding Service to WMCA (time/length of service), service on WMCA Committees, attendance at State conferences, involvement in regional groups and/or IIMC committees) and contribution to the clerk profession
- Special projects and community activities and volunteerism

Yes, Clerks can nominate each other! You have already been thinking about a Clerk you would like to see receive this award. Remember, the nomination must WOW! President Passey. Therefore, you will want to do your homework and research, and engage your best writing skills to tell the Committee how wonderful you believe your admired and respected Clerk to be. The Committee and President Passey are likely to think so, too.

Forms and information on the nomination process can be found under the Clerk of the Year Policy and *Awards Committee description* on the website at www.wmcaclerks.org. A list of past Clerk of the Year Award recipients, as well as those honored with the President’s Award of Distinction, is also located there.

Please note, it is encouraged that nominations be submitted in collaboration with the nominee’s elected and/or appointed officials and/or supervisor. Letters will be sent to all members’ elected and/or appointed officials in a few weeks. But, shhhhhh! This is a surprise! The only WMCA members not eligible to be considered for nomination are those holding the office of President, President-Elect, Vice President and Past President.

Don’t let this opportunity to recognize one of your peers pass you by! Nominations must be postmarked by December 31, 2013. More details will appear in the November newsletter.

Please send your completed nomination packets to:

Sandy Paul
Des Moines Pool Metro Park District
PO Box 98711 Des Moines WA 98198



Alice Bush
Very Proud 2013 Clerk of the Year
(and we are very proud of her!)

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

October
2013

Congratulations to our newest Certified Municipal Clerk:

Marsha Moore, Snohomish County Fire District

And to our newest Master Municipal Clerk:

MMC

Dee Roberts, City of South Bend

CMC

**DAYLIGHT
SAVINGS TIME
ENDS SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 3RD.
REMEMBER TO
TURN YOUR
CLOCKS BACK
AN HOUR!**



REGIONAL WMCA GROUPS – GET INVOLVED!

Did you know that there are regional WMCA groups around the state that might be in your area that you could join? Regional groups can be very helpful as you get to connect to fellow clerks who are in your region on a frequent basis. Below is a list of current associations and detailed contact info is available on the WMCA website listed below:
<http://wmcaclerks.org/Default.aspx?pageId=829363>

- Eastern Washington Finance Officers Association
- King County Municipal Clerks Association
- North Central Washington Clerks/Treasurers Association
- Olympic Region Municipal Clerks Association (ORMCA)
- Pierce County Clerks & Finance Officers
- Snohomish County Clerks & Finance Officers Association
- South Central Washington Municipal Clerks
- Whatcom County Clerks & Finance Officers Association

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 and Rachel Shaw at rshaw@cityofprosser.com

Coffee Fest

Seattle

October 4th-6th

www.coffeefest.com/

Everett Sausage Fest

Everett

October 4th-6th

www.everettsausagefest.com/

Ellensburg Film Festival

Ellensburg

October 4th-6th

www.ellensburgfilmfestival.com/

31st Annual Oysterfest

Shelton

October 5th-6th

www.woodenboat.org/festival/

Salmon Days

Issaquah

October 5th-6th

www.salmondays.org/

Leavenworth Oktoberfest

Leavenworth

October 5-6, 11-12, 18-19

www.leavenworthoktoberfest.com/

Dungeness Crab &

Seafood Festival

Port Angeles

October 11th-13th

www.crabfestival.org

Tacoma Holiday &

Gift Festival

Tacoma

October 16th-20th

www.holidaygiftshows.com

Best of the Northwest

Fall Show

Seattle

October 18th-20th

www.nwartalliance.com/