

WMCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT April - 2009

Bob Baker, CMC, City Clerk
WMCA President – 2009-2010



Wow! What an amazingly incredible organization we belong to! Each of YOU makes WMCA outstanding. I am humbled with the honor to serve as your 2009-2010 President. The opportunity will certainly be life changing and most likely the pinnacle of my professional career. Thank you for your trust and respect.

WMCA is an incredible organization that provides an equally incredible place to gain knowledge, network, share, and grow - personally and professionally. Each of YOU is making the difference.

As your new President, a journey has begun and the words THANK YOU have taken on a new meaning. Since outgoing President Spietz administered my oath of office, it's clear to see and say that nothing can be done without each of you playing a role - in front of the scenes, behind the scenes and all points in between.

For those of you who have chosen to serve on one of our committees this year - please accept my sincere appreciation in advance. If you were unable to attend the conference and would like to sign up for one of the committees, there is still time. Please contact me at bobb@ci.newcastle.wa.us and I'll hook you up.

During my opening remarks at the annual banquet in Ocean Shores, I posed a challenge to every WMCA member. It's that challenge that will serve as our theme for the year. No matter where you go or what you do this year, please accept the challenge to **“Stand with Purpose. Live with Passion. Serve with Pride.”**

Since WMCA will celebrate the big 4-0 next March, look for fun, excitement and birthday cake - as we meet at the Mirabeau Park Hotel in Spokane Valley. In the meantime, please let anyone on the Executive Committee or me know what we may do to assist you. You elected each of us for a reason and we are here to serve.

If this is the first time you've read the Executive Committee Newsletter, I hope you'll find it interesting, informational and fun. If you've been reading it for a while - keep reading! As you know - they are packed with useful information, tips, and helpful hints. It's a great resource and one of the benefits of your membership with WMCA. Every member on the Executive Committee takes a turn writing this report and compiling its contents. Please let us know if you'd like something included. Have an unbelievable year and THANK YOU once again.



39TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE - IN OCEAN SHORES - A HUGE SUCCESS



The Quinault Beach Resort and Casino was the venue for the 39th annual conference held March 17-20. The theme was X Marks the Spot, X-Cellence and X-Perience and President Ali Spietz personified those characteristics in a job well done. Throughout the report, you'll see various photographs taken during Ali's amazing conference. Every committee worked hard to ensure it was a huge success. And, it was!

Featured Speaker Deb Sofield led off the Advanced Academy with a session entitled "Public Speaking for Professionals & Everyone Deserves a Second Chance - Even You!" Deb's mantra, "Powerful People Take Up Physical Space" inspired many attendees to stand up and be noticed both at work and in life. She reminded us that if you're invited to the meeting, you belong there. Later that evening, President Spietz welcomed everyone to the conference at the beach-

themed President's Reception.

Quinault dancers entertained at the opening session on Wednesday morning followed by Deb Sofield's General Session "The Unspoken Rules of the Game - 5 Habits That Can Change Your Life."

Education sessions included a number of topics including legislative updates, leadership training, personal wellness, public disclosure, customer service, and the multigenerational workplace. Martha Bryan concluded the conference with a session entitled, "Take This Job and Love It." Great job Education Committee!

We really appreciate the support from our WMCA supporters with 14 vendors participating this year including 3 Platinum Sponsors. \$7,000 was raised from vendor registrations and a total of \$5,152 was donated by a number of sponsors. The site was a little small to accommodate the number of vendors we had in previous years but interest remains strong for future conferences. The revenue raised from vendors and sponsorships has helped fund additional scholarships for our members.

Speaking of fundraising, Debby Barham and Valerie Loffler were incredible as Chairs of the Fundraising Committee. Pre-sales of raffle tickets proved to be successful and new merchandise items were also very popular. Deb Sofield served as this year's auctioneer with assistance from Bob Baker and some pirate chicks at Wednesday's lunch. The live auction raised \$2,215 while the silent auction garnered \$2,886. The total funds raised from auctions, merchandise sales and raffle tickets was \$11,840! The timeline of the auctions was adjusted this year to accommodate the free night to enjoy the stores and restaurants in Ocean Shores and the Quinault's many amenities. Thanks to Diane Foss for organizing the stores to stay open!

Despite the difficult economy, registration numbers were very encouraging and surpassed expectations. 150 people registered for the conference and 90 attended the Academy Session. These numbers show that there is great support in our membership pursuing educational opportunities and at 325 members. We are growing strong as an organization.

This year's annual banquet featured a pirate theme with Captain Jack Sparrow and other famous folks in attendance.





With tables looking sharp in red and black linens (okay a few were brown), President Spietz announced Cheryl Proffitt-Schmidt as the 2009 Clerk of the Year. All toasted the Clerk receiving the association's highest award. Congratulations, Cheryl.

Also praised for their dedication and efforts through the year and receiving President's Awards of Distinction were Paula Swisher and Becky Upton.

Glasses were raised to honor these fabulous clerks for their contributions over the past year.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLY ELECTEDS

The Elections Committee conducted the election process for this year's Executive Committee vacancies, including President-Elect, Vice-President, Treasurer and two Board Member positions. Candidate Statements and associated documentations were received by all members in accordance with the WMCA Bylaws.

The Committee members met on January 30th to stuff the ballot envelopes which were mailed on Monday, February 2, 2009. A total of 304 ballots were mailed to members based on the active list of members received from Treasurer Sheryle Wyatt. The deadline for returns was February 20, 2009. As of that date, 165 ballots were received. One ballot received was unable to be verified by either Elections Chair Percival or Treasurer Wyatt as a member in good standing and two ballots were received after the deadline. A total of 164 ballots were validated for counting.

The Committee met Friday, February 27, 2009, at 8:30 am at Pierce Transit Headquarters to count ballots. The following is the result from that meeting:

President-Elect: Karen Kuznek-Reese	Total votes received - 163
Vice President: Treva Percival	Total votes received - 163
Treasurer: Sheryle Wyatt	Total votes received - 163
Board Member: Virginia Olsen	Total votes received - 163
Board Member: Scott Passey	Total votes received - 157
Write In:	
President-Elect Terri Berry	Total votes received - 1



A VACANCY ON THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

As Karen Kuznek-Reese was elected President Elect, a vacancy on the board has been created and must be filled. Are you up for the challenge? Would you like to get involved and make contributions in a different way? The **DEADLINE IS APRIL 8** to submit your items. Please check the website for details. www.wmcaclerks.org

CALL FOR INTEREST - PUBLIC RECORDS OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

At the most recent WMCA conference a presentation on “Public Disclosure Requests” was conducted by Ramsey Ramerman of Foster, Pepper. With an increase in public records requests, ongoing legislative changes to the Public Records Act and litigation filings, Mr. Ramerman is conducting a survey to determine if there was sufficient interest among WMCA members in forming a Public Records Officers Association. If you would take 5 minutes to complete the survey on our website at www.wmcaclerks.org and return it to Alice Bush, City of Lakewood, at abush@cityoflakewood.us by April 15, your input will be greatly appreciated.

2009 NORTHWEST CLERKS INSTITUTE SCHOLARSHIPS

A record number of scholarships were awarded this past year by WMCA. Congratulations to the following members of WMCA for receiving a scholarship to attend this year's Professional Development classes at the Northwest Clerks Institute!

Registration & Housing (to attend PD I):

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| 1. Kim Morey | Montesano |
| 2. Michelle Brooks | Leavenworth |
| 3. Kristy Powell | Montesano |
| 4. Julie Minsker | Ocean Shores |
| 5. Tiffany Ostreim | Cowlitz County |

Registration only (to attend PD II and PD III):

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Jodi Wycoff | Duvall |
| 2. Kelly Collins | Royal City |
| 3. Paula Swisher | Brier |
| 4. Barbara Vasquez | Grant County |
| 5. Joanne Sanders | Port Townsend |
| 6. Randy Hinchliffe | Waitsburg |
| 7. Lalena Johns | Okanogan County |
| 8. Rose Courneya | Connell |
| 9. Carol McLester | Entiat |



The Executive Committee also accepted the Scholarship Committee's recommendation regarding the Marge Price Scholarships and awarded scholarships for the Master Academy in the amount of \$500 each to:

1. Alice Attwood, City of Tonasket
2. Terri Berry, City of Sumner
3. Virginia Olsen, City of Mountlake Terrace

These scholarships are in addition to the 20 scholarships awarded to WMCA members to attend the annual conference.

KUDOS TO THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE FOR THEIR WORK IN EVALUATING AND MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS ON ALL OF THESE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS!



ADDITIONAL MASTER ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

The Washington Municipal Clerks Association (WMCA) is pleased to announce the availability of four additional \$500 Marge Price Scholarships to attend the 2009 Northwest Clerks Institute (NCI) Master Academy. The Marge Price Scholarship applications are available on the WMCA website at <http://www.wmcaclerks.org/2008%20Scholarship%20-%20Marge%20Price%20App.pdf>

These four additional scholarships are allocated for WMCA members pursuing their Master Municipal Clerk designation and will be applied to the registration fee for the 2009 NCI Master Academy. Completed applications, including all required documentation, may be mailed, faxed, or e-mailed but must be received by April 8.

The deadline for these scholarship applications is Wednesday, April 8.

Please direct any questions regarding these additional scholarships to:

- Claire Lider, 2008-2009 Scholarship Committee Chair, claire.lider@ci.battle-ground.wa.us, (360) 342-5008; or
- Kammy Hill, WMCA Board Member, khill@ci.walla-walla.wa.us, (509) 524-4348.

IIMC CONFERENCE - CHICAGO

The annual IIMC Conference in Chicago is fast approaching. We hope to see many Region IX folks there. As you know, the IIMC Board of Directors voted to award a total of 8 education points for conference attendance. Check out the cheap air fares to Chicago and find a roommate, you will find the conference is more affordable than you think! This is an amazing chance to meet and network with clerks from all over the world and take advantage of great educational opportunities. Check the IIMC website for registration details.

If you will be in Chicago, join clerks from Oregon, Alaska, Washington and California at the traditional Region IX dinner on Wednesday, May 20 at 6 p.m. The Oregon Association of Municipal Recordors (OAMR) has organized a pizza party this year at Pizano's Pizza and Pasta, just a block from the conference hotel. For \$38, enjoy the best deep dish pizza in Chicago, as well as pasta, salad, dessert and soft drinks. Bring a guest! To reserve your place, send checks to Nancy Batchelder, MMC, City of Yachats, P.O. Box 345, Yachats, OR 97498. This is always a fun time to catch up with our friends in Oregon, Alaska, and California - hope to see you there!

This will be a notable conference for Region IX as our own Colleen Nicol, from Riverside California, will take office as IIMC Vice President. Colleen is well known throughout Region IX and has attended the WMCA conference several times, both as the president of the City Clerks Association of California, and as current Region IX Director. As Colleen moves on, we will welcome Peggy Hawker, of Newport, Oregon, who will begin her three year term as Region Director.



Colleen Nicol, MMC

2009 FALL ACADEMY - SAVE THE DATES

We have scheduled Fall Academy sessions for Friday, October 2 and Friday, October 9. One session will be on the east side and one on the west side but we're not sure which will be which yet. The other exciting news is that our speaker will be the very popular Dr. Michael Shadow, whom many of you have heard at PD classes. Please stay tuned as the Education Committee works out more details - in the meantime, keep your calendar free!

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

Be sure to contact anyone on the Executive Committee if you have thoughts, ideas or items to be discussed at one of our quarterly meetings. Minutes from those minutes are posted on the website. Check 'em out and stay on top of what's happening!



The first board meeting of the year took place immediately after the conference adjourned. For the remainder of the year, meeting dates are as follows:

Friday	June 26, 2009	Tumwater
Friday	October 23, 2009	Spokane Valley
Friday	January 22, 2010	Newcastle

NOTICE OF ADOPTED BYLAW AMENDMENTS

At its Annual Meeting on March 19, 2009, WMCA membership voted unanimously to amend the organization's bylaws. For a complete text on the amendment regarding annual audits of our Non-Profit organization (indeed, we are a 501(c)(3) organization), please go to www.wmcaclerks.org

NOTARY NED AND PARLIAMENTARY PETE

These poor gentlemen have been traveling abroad, whooping it up and generally taking it easy lately. They need rest from their rest yet will be back in action in May. Look forward to more interesting information and help when they return.

Come and celebrate WMCA'S 40th Anniversary bash!



SEE YOU NEXT YEAR AT THE MIRABEAU!

**Mirabeau Park Hotel and Convention
Center - Spokane Valley**

Spring Academy - March 16, 2010

&

40th Annual Conference - March 17-20, 2010