

# WMCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

September - 2009

Debbie Clark CMC, City of Pasco

WMCA Executive Committee Member

## FROM PRESIDENT BOB:

With permission, I share the following news about Tom McDonald, our wonderful friend, pillar and cornerstone of the Local Government Management Association in Victoria, B.C. Tom comes to the WMCA conferences annually and LGMA plays “host” to the WMCA President each year as well. He and his staff are the best – do the best – and extend their best to everyone.

Approximately one month ago, Tom was diagnosed with “Multi-Myeloma.” In his words, this is “cancer of the blood and plasma cells”. It is an incurable, yet treatable disease.

The cancer is present in his spine and ribs. With the diagnosis on August 4 and a very serious road of treatment ahead, Tom made an announcement at his office on August 5 and has taken a leave of absence. As evidence of his un-ending energetic style, Tom’s duties have been divided among 4 of his peers. He is an amazing individual, through our entire telephone conversation two weeks ago, Tom was upbeat, positive, laughing, joking and in “*FABULOUS CHEER.*” (his words).

His future “four-course treatment” for this type of cancer will last nearly 4 months. He is actually looking forward to the radiation treatments as he believes it will end much of the pain.

If you know Tom, you can imagine him smiling, laughing and joking as he re-counted his news. And, if you don’t know Tom, he is the consummate gentleman, scholar and bar-none the best friend and colleague a person could have the privilege of knowing. Known to nearly everyone – everywhere, Tom’s smile is contagious and his generosity is unparalleled.

Before closing, I can tell you one quick funny story...As we were about to hang up, Tom said he was going to have to hire an executive assistant as clerks from around the world who hear of his news are calling him. He said people are coming out of the wood work to say hello and he never would have expected that. He’s overwhelmed – in a good way – by the contact. And, while he loves the contact, he’s finding it hard to keep up with all of it. In the short span of approximately 15 minutes (as we talked) Tom welcomed two visitors to the front door who arrived with treats, cards and well-wishes.

Finally, if you would like to send a card, a note, flowers, or well wishes, please let me know and I’ll send you his home address.

Please keep Tom and his wife in your thoughts and prayers.

With much respect and gratitude for each of you,  
Bob



### Message from Sheryle Wyatt, Treasurer

RETIREMENT.....AHHHHH!

As most of you know, I retired from the City of Tumwater on July 31! Let me tell you that retirement is truly an amazing experience! I love being able to plan what I want to do! August 10 I traveled to Phoenix, AZ to visit with my son and his family. Sarah (5) and Luke (2) kept Nana busy to go with Sarah Grade! Got to teachers and just sunshine! It was



visit with my son and his family. Sarah (5) and Luke (2) and what a joy it was! I got on her first day of First meet Luke's Preschool play and swim and enjoy the a delightful week for Nana!



I returned home and froze for a few days! My best friend fell and broke her knee so I have been helping her with things she needs....what a joy to be able to assist her without worrying about work! You know, actually I am not missing work AT ALL! It certainly seems strange to not be checking email, etc....but I am adjusting **amazingly** fast! ☺ Mike and I head out for Henderson, NV on Sept 4 to spend a week with our daughter! More sunshine and another pool!

For those of you contemplating retirement....GO FOR IT! For those of you who have a bit longer to work....my condolences! ☺ I am delighted that I could continue with the Treasurer duties till next March and will see you all at conference. Have a great Fall season!  
Sheryle

### Message from Secretary Cheryl Proffitt-Schmidt



It has been a fun year in North Bend, celebrating our centennial and 100 Years of public service in 2009. Our stand alone event was the Downtown Centennial Block Party held on June 27<sup>th</sup>. It was a huge success with over three thousand in attendance and a surprise appearance by Spike and the Impalers! During the recent Festival at Mt Si we held several more events which included a Centennial Quilt Cake, suggested to us by a local 4<sup>th</sup> grader and made up of 154 cakes that community members baked. In addition to our Centennial this year, a branding team worked to create our new tag line which was recently adopted: "North Bend...Easy to Reach...Hard to Leave". To see more pictures from the Downtown Party and Festival go to <http://www.ci.north-bend.wa.us> and click on the Centennial tab.



We served over 2200 slices of cake!!



Dedication of our centennial legacy project  
"The Torguson Park Climbing Rock".

Admin Asst. Juanita Smart, Cheryl and son Quinn.



City of North Bend Mayor Ken Hearing  
& wife Marie in 1909 period attire.

## Scholarship Committee news update:

### Scholarship Opportunities

New Scholarship Guidelines and Applications for the 2009-2010 year are now available on the WMCA website. The next scholarship opportunity will be the Margery Price Scholarship for **Spring Academy**. Four scholarships are available for registration; the **deadline to apply is December 18, 2009**. You must have received your CMC and be working towards your MMC designation to apply for a Margery Price Scholarship. Additional scholarships are available for the upcoming 2010 conference and NCI Academics. Please see the WMCA website for full details on WMCA Scholarships.

Other scholarship sources include IIMC (International Institute of Municipal Clerks), WCIA (Washington Cities Insurance Authority), AWC (Association of Washington Cities), CIAW (Cities Insurance Association of Washington) and regional clerks associations.

The current Scholarship Committee would like to thank Kammy Hill, Virginia Olsen, and Sandy Paul who formed the ad hoc committee that took all of the suggestions from last year's Committee, and spent many hours to update the Scholarship Guidelines/ Applications/Rating Sheets for the 2009-2010 year.

### Ever thought about running for office?

This is a great year to run for a WMCA office. Current Officers and Board Members are encouraging more applicants and hope to see a minimum of two candidates for each position. It is a wonderful opportunity to work closely with others in our profession, learn new leadership skills, and earn certification points. The following positions will be up for election in 2010:

- President-Elect (1 year term)
- Vice President (1 year term)
- Treasurer (1 year to fill unexpired term)
- Secretary ( 2 year term)
- Board member (2 positions- 3 year term)

WMCA Job descriptions are available on the website, click on the Executive Committee tab. Please feel free to contact the person who is currently serving in that position if you have questions about what the position entails and how much time is involved.

## Finance Committee news updates:

Volunteers are **HARD at Work for You & Your Continuing Education!**

### GRAND RAFFLE TICKET SALES

We only have 1140 Grand Raffle Tickets left to distribute for sale. This past week, 7 **AWESOME** clerks volunteered to sell tickets to their friends, neighbors, family, and co-workers.

You **DON'T** need to be a Fundraising Committee member to join in on all the fun! Order your ticket books **NOW** by contacting Rebecca Dover at [rdover@othellowashington.us](mailto:rdover@othellowashington.us) or by calling 509-488-5686.

The tickets are in books of 10. Each \$5 ticket is good for 3 chances to win. Three prizes will be awarded during the 2010 WMCA Conference one of each \$500, \$750 and \$1,000!

Please help the Fundraising Committee achieve our goal to sell 1,250 tickets before the conference.

If you are already selling tickets, please start sending your money and ticket stubs back to: **Rebecca Dover, City of Othello, 500 E. Main Street, Othello WA 99344, WA 99344, WA 99344.** Please write a personal check or a cashier's check that covers your raffle ticket "cash" sales. Checks should be made out to WMCA.

**It's easier than you think to sell (or buy) JUST 10 tickets!**

## Education Committee news update:

**Master Academy Sessions Scheduled**

**WMCA** will sponsor a master academy session in two locations this October. **Please mark your calendars.**

Our speaker will be **Dr. Michael Shadow - "Storytelling: A Communication Tool for Improving Your Organizations' Image."** Attendance will earn 3 MMC advanced educational points, 3 CMC experience points or 6 hours CMC certification credit.

**October 2, 2009** - The "east" session will be held in at the Coast Wenatchee Convention Center in Wenatchee.

**October 9, 2009** - The "west" session will be held at the City of DuPont City Hall, DuPont.

Both sessions are from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The \$125 member registration fee includes the usual breaks and lunch.

Academy Flyer with all important information and registration form available on the WMCA webpage at: <http://www.wmcaclerks.org/09FallAcademy.htm>

Be sure to register right away!



**Congratulations are in order:**

We are pleased to inform the membership that the following individual(s) have earned the prestigious Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) designation from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) in the month of July 2009:

Helen Ida Ware, CMC  
Deputy City Clerk/Civil Service Examiner  
City of Fife  
[hware@cityoffife.org](mailto:hware@cityoffife.org)

**Congratulations on recent retirements:**

**Retirement congratulations:**

After many years of service to the citizens of both the City of Seattle and the City of Des Moines, we would like to offer congratulations:

Judith Pippin, City of Seattle  
Denis Staab, City of Des Moines