

Editor, Rachel Carl, City of Ocean Shores



## Executive Committee

### President

Diana Quinn

### President Elect

Debbie Burke

### Vice President

Shannon Corin

### Secretary

Virginia Olsen

### Treasurer

Gina Anderson

### Board

#### Members

Jill Boltz

Randy Hinchliffe

Christy O'Flaherty

Dee Roberts

Paula Swisher

Bobbie Usselman

### Past President

Scott Passey

### Visit our Website:

[www.WMCAClerks.org](http://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

Diana Quinn, MMC

One of things I like most about my job is the location, yes, I said "the location." You're probably sitting there wondering why I would choose such a simple thing like "location."

Well, Algona City Hall is located in the center of our small city, right next door to our beautiful Matchett Park. In the summer when we have these lovely sunny days, I have the joy of hearing the children in the park.

Do you remember what it felt like to fly high in the swings, slide down the silver slide, and finally being able to swing and grab those bars which were so high when we were so little? It's the sound of pure joy, of playing, being carefree, with nothing to worry about... I love hearing the children play, smelling the fresh mowed grass, it reminds me of the simple things, and brings back so many memories of my own childhood.

Today's children have so much more to deal with than my "baby boomer" friends and myself. Many of us had stay at home Moms, or friends and relatives to look after us. I remember running to my Grandma's house when my Mom wasn't home, and I was hungry. She could always be counted on for peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, Tang, and chocolate no-bake cookies!

Many families today consist of a single parent income, or need both incomes to make ends meet. Young families move away from the town they grew up in and the parents they could rely upon for childcare, to follow the job market. Children sometimes get lost in the necessity of making a living. Don't get me wrong, I still believe there are as many loving parents in the world now as there were then, it's just that today society's needs and wants seems to somehow work against them. We need to rely on social services to help pick up the slack, and provide programs to make sure these children move in the right direction.

This brings me to the other thing I like most about my job. This one will really shock you, but it's the elected official I work for – yes I said it – *the*

### ON THE INSIDE...

Featured Clerk	Page 3	News from Port Townsend	Page 6
WMCA Fall Academy	Page 4	Laugh Out Loud	Page 7
Scholarship Committee	Page 4	Membership News	Page 8
Legislative Report	Page 5	MRSC Webinar Event	Page 8

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONT.)

*elected official I work for!* Algona's Mayor David Hill has such a compassion for children. He truly wants to make a difference in the lives of the youth in Algona.

He has worked in **collaboration** with the YMCA to offer membership to 23 of the youth in our community, and that number grows year after year. It was his idea to make arrangements to offer a summer lunch program in our park, in **collaboration** with the Auburn School District. We serve at least 50 kids, up to 18 years old every day during the summer. We are working with the local library to bring tutoring to the students who need it, in our council chambers. We have an Explorer Program in our Police Department that is second to none! Our program consists of youth from Algona, Pacific and Sumner. They help with all the events that go on in our three cities, all the way from cooking hot dogs at "movie night in the park" to directing traffic during parades. They learn to be good citizens, respectful, more confident and able to face whatever path they choose with confidence. The three cities **collaborate** in training, sending them to camps and competing with other Explorer Posts in Washington State. This could not be accomplished without the support of our Mayor.

Mayor Hill pushed for a CDBG grant that enabled us to build a sports court, and made sure we put money aside in our budget to resurface an old dilapidated basketball court, installing new hoops and backstops.

He and his wife have supplied all the food and preparation of it to offer a "Christmas Social" dinner – and I mean dinner, 3 turkeys, 2 hams, mashed potatoes, gravy, the whole works, for the citizens of Algona. And don't forget Santa for the kids! Not a single one of them go home without a gift. Mayor Hill and his wife Susan have done this, at their own expense, for over 10 years!



We have "Popcorn Fridays" at City Hall. Anyone who comes into City Hall is offered a bag of popcorn, while taking care of city business, or just stopping by to say hi. The children get off the school bus and file into our reception area where we ask them if they had a good week, and what they're going to do for the weekend. This is something these kids will remember many years down the road. The Mayor encouraged this, wanting the youth to know City Hall is a "kid friendly" place they can always rely upon.

This isn't even the tip of the iceberg. Mayor Hill and Algona are all about family. We realize the youth of today, are the leaders of tomorrow. We do all we can to support them, and encourage them to be active citizens in their community. We **collaborate** with as many organizations as we can find to offer whatever services we are able to.

As you can see, I'm very passionate about the partnerships I am encouraged to seek out and implement in my daily work. It makes me proud to be a part of something I see as being so very important in making a difference.

**Collaborate** means "to work jointly with others." This is the "C" in **MAGIC**.

So go out there and "**WORK YOUR MAGIC**" – Collaborate with others to make a difference!!

Diana



# FEATURED CLERK



**Michelle Hart, MMC**  
**City Clerk**  
**Redmond, Washington**

Michelle Hart is a Master Municipal Clerk and has been involved in municipal government and the world of

the Clerk since 2000. Her professional associations include: the National Association of Parliamentarians (NAP), the American Institute of Parliamentarians (AIP), the Washington State Association of Parliamentarians (WSAP), the Washington Municipal Clerk's Association (WMCA), the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC), and the Washington Association of Public Records Officers (WAPRO). Michelle is also the current Chair of the WMCA Bylaws Committee, and has been a member of the WSAP Bylaws Committee and two-term Secretary for WSAP. She has been with the great City of Redmond for 6 ½ years now, and prior to that was the County Clerk for the Matanuska-Susitna Borough in



Michelle Hart

the state of Alaska.



Michelle and daughter Isabelle

Michelle holds a B.A. in Criminal Justice with a Business Management Minor from the University of Alaska Anchorage. She has trained many Councils/Assemblies, Mayors, Boards/Committees, and staff regarding meeting and parliamentary procedure. Michelle has a great passion for the work of the Municipal Clerk and for contributing to the mission, vision, and values of the professional organizations she is associated with. She prides herself in being the best public servant she can be. For Michelle, service in municipal government is rewarding and enriching. She enjoys mentoring new clerks, watching them learn and grow -- ultimately embarking on their own path forward in public service.

Michelle lives in Bellevue, Washington, with her husband, Brett, and their 16-year-old daughter, Isabelle. She is newly

married (just over a year now) to her best friend of almost eight years. Michelle and her husband met in a snow storm in Juneau, Alaska, while she was on conference, and he was on business from Seattle. After a year, she relocated to Redmond, Washington, where their story has continued to be written. Michelle's daughter, Isabelle, will be starting her junior year of high school in the fall, and she is her mother's pride and joy. Michelle's hobbies include enjoying: warm sunny days, camping, hiking, fishing, Sunday barbeques, and great music.



Michelle, Isabelle, and Brett

# WMCA FALL ACADEMY

Education Committee—Carol Etgen, MMC



**WMCA Fall Academy  
Friday, October 10, 2014  
Hal Holmes Center—Ellensburg, WA**

**“It’s All About YOU: Emotional Intelligence & Your Authentic Self”**

**Presented by Sheila Sheinberg, Ed.D.  
The Center for Life Cycle Sciences**

Registration is now open for the Fall Advanced Academy session. The registration form is available on the WMCA website. Registration deadline (without a late fee) is *September 26th*.

**Area Hotel Choices** (*Tell them you’re with WMCA for these rates **BY OCTOBER 2, 2014***)

Comfort Inn (509)925-7037—1722 Canyon Rd—\$83 single or \$89 double  
Quality Inn (509)925-9800—1700 Canyon Rd—\$83 single or \$89 double

## SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Are you planning on attending the Fall Academy on October 10, 2014 in Ellensburg, WA? 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 15, 2014. For more information, please contact Dee Roberts, City of South Bend at [dee.roberts@southbend-wa.gov](mailto:dee.roberts@southbend-wa.gov)





# LEGISLATIVE REPORT

**Legislative Report**  
**Sandy Paul MMC, Legislative Committee Chair**

As a new Clerk a loooooong time ago, Basic Training for City Clerks was offered. It was more technical, how-to stuff that was not so much a part of Professional Development classes. However, that WAS pre-Dema Harris!! The class was discontinued and has since been brought back by AWC and RMSA. Take a look:

## Clerk/Treasurer Essentials

**August 12 – Wenatchee**  
129 S Chelan Ave  
Wenatchee, WA 98801

**November 13 – AWC Office**  
1076 Franklin St  
Olympia, WA 98501

Training is specifically tailored for clerk/treasurers or other key office staff such as deputy clerks or utility clerks. Check the AWC website for more details, [www.awcnet.org](http://www.awcnet.org).

The Association of Washington Cities exists to help you have resources you need to serve and keep your communities vibrant. Most of the tools at your disposal come from what State legislators decide you can or cannot do. Candidates for all 98 House, and half of the 49 Senate seats are now campaigning to retain or get newly elected, and unless asked, they may not be talking or thinking about why strong cities matter, and what it takes to keep them strong.

On the heels of several difficult legislative sessions that saw the State cutting and withholding revenues for city services and infrastructure, those relationships need nurturing. You can help:

Inform yourself of which legislative candidates want to represent you, and where they stand on issues important to you. If the candidate(s) in your legislative district have not yet responded to the AWC Candidate Survey, see if you can urge them to do so. There are many legislators who care about cities and towns, and not just the cities and town they represent. All legislators come to Olympia wanting to make their mark. Most are very open to thinking about, and acting on issues of importance to cities and towns.



It is time to familiarize yourself with the Public Disclosure Commissioner Guidelines. Take some time to review everyone's roles and responsibilities. For guidance on reporting requirements and restrictions on lobbying, see the [PDC website](#) or review the [PDC's Public Agency Lobbying handbook](#).

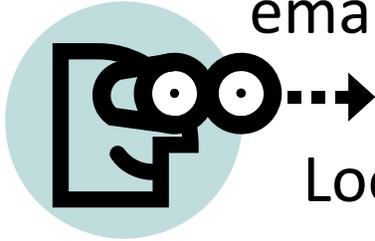
Additional Training for the new requirement that all elected and staff be educated in open meetings, records management, and public disclosure has been scheduled. The following is a sample of training coming soon. Check the AWC and MRSC websites for more opportunities.

 Open Government Training  
Offered by the Washington Association of County Officials, the Secretary of State, Municipal Research & Services Center, and the Washington Coalition for Open Government - Skagit County – August 4, Cowlitz County – August 12, Walla Walla County – August 21 and Chelan County – August 26 - Washington State Auditor's Open Government & Transparency Training Sessions - Yakima – September 17 and Tri-Cities – September 18

 AWC Open Government Webinar, Catch the Open Government Trainings Act  
Speakers: Nancy Krier, Assistant Attorney General for Open Government, Washington State Attorney General's Office; Scott Sackett, Electronic Records Management Consultant, Washington State Archives.:  
Washington State Attorney General's online training curriculum

# IIMC REGION IX REPORT

The IIMC Region IX Report was  
emailed in July.



Look for it in your inbox!

If you missed it, the report is available on the WMCA website.

## NEWS FROM PORT TOWNSEND



Joanna Sanders and Pam Kolacy

Congratulations to Joanna Sanders, CMC, who was promoted to the position of City Clerk for the City of Port Townsend on July 1. Joanna has worked for the City since 2005 and has been the Deputy Clerk for four years. City Manager David Timmons states that “Joanna has earned the respect of staff, elected officials and the public during her time as Deputy Clerk. She is experienced in all aspects of the position and is very well prepared to move into the job.”

Former Clerk Pam Kolacy, MMC, has transitioned to the position of Human Resources Director until her retirement in 2015. Pam has been with the city since 1994 and has served as president of WMCA and as IIMC Region IX Director. Although she will miss being the City Clerk, she is excited that the City will finally have a dedicated Human Resources department. She is also confident

that the city is in good hands, noting that Joanna will have excellent assistance from two new deputy clerks, Josh Stecker and Kelly McLaughlin.

Joanna is a long-time city resident who has been active in the community as an independent meeting secretary for various governmental and nongovernmental bodies and personally as a volunteer in youth activities at the Port Townsend School District and as a member of Quimper Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Pam is also a long term area resident who has been active in Olympic Mountain Pet Pals and the Port Townsend Film Festival.

LOL!

# LAUGH OUT LOUD

## What does that mean?



## Signs in Different Languages



Submitted by Carol Etgen



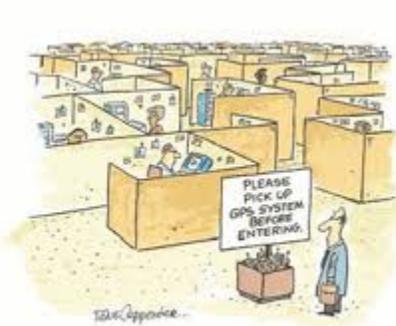
## Joke of the Month

### Plain Economics

A guy is walking down the street with his friend. He says to his friend, "I'm a walking economy."

His friend replies, "How's that?"

"It's like this — my hair line is in recession, my stomach is a victim of inflation, and the combination of these factors is putting me in a deep depression."



*Thank you to Carol Etgen, City of Fife, for sign submissions this month and last month.*

Do you have a funny story, joke or cartoon you would like to share? Please submit them to [Shannon.Corin@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Shannon.Corin@ci.bremerton.wa.us).

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

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



**Kate Kennedy,  
Pierce County Council**

**Steve Driscoll,  
Yakima County Courts**

**Katie Bolam,  
City of Milton**

**Carol Blevens,  
City of Maple Valley**

**Amanda Delapena,  
City of Vancouver**

## MRSC WEBINAR

### **Social Media for Government: Harnessing the Power While Managing the Risks**

**Date:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014

**Time:** 11:00am—12:00pm

**Cost:** FREE

This webinar will provide strategies for using social media, particularly in compliance with open government requirements. Bronlea Mishler, Deputy Director of Communications for Snohomish County, will go over the basics of how and why social media is important for local governments, dissecting the strengths and weaknesses of various platforms. As an illustrative example she will highlight how Snohomish County leveraged social media to support emergency management during the Highway 530 mudslide. MRSC legal consultant Jim Doherty will then talk about social media's relationship with public records, the open public meetings act, and other legal issues. There will be a generous question and answer session at the end to explore any and all questions you have about better utilizing social media.

**Register at [www.mrsc.org](http://www.mrsc.org)**



## 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](mailto:mvaliant@ci.tumwater.wa.us) & Rachel Shaw at [rshaw@cityofprosser.com](mailto:rshaw@cityofprosser.com)