

Editor, Shannon Corin, City of Bremerton



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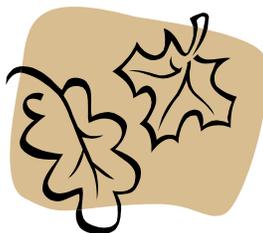
[www.WMCAClerks.org](http://www.WMCAClerks.org)

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

"Come said the wind to  
the leaves one day,  
Come o're the meadows  
and we will play.  
Put on your dresses  
scarlet and gold,  
For summer is gone  
and the days grow  
cold."



- A Children's Song of the 1880's

To me, this time of year is purely *magical*! The transformation from bright sun, bathing suits and picnics in the park, to school clothes, warm sweaters, football games, and children in their beds at a reasonable hour!

We always look forward to our children being home for the summer, but boy, when back-to-school comes around, I don't think you could find a parent who doesn't give a little sigh of relief as life falls back into the autumn routine.

Autumn itself is *magic*. Isn't it funny how one day we wake up and the leaves on the trees are changing colors right before our eyes! If you haven't already done so, a trip through the Cascade Mountains in September is a visual smorgasbord!

September is the time we begin thinking of Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas (that's right, only 112 more shopping days!) We hunker down, anticipating the cooler weather, longer nights, and here in the northwest, we can pretty much plan on adverse weather. We need to remember how lucky we are to experience all of the seasons. I can't imagine sitting on the beach after Christmas dinner, well maybe I can, but to me, that would be called "vacation."

This month I will travel to Bend, Oregon for the

Oregon Association of Municipal Recorders Conference. Once again, I'm honored to represent WMCA. I believe it's always beneficial to experience and learn other organizations policies and procedures, sharing ideas of how we can better serve the clerks in our associations. Networking is something that will never be replaced, no matter what type of venue we use to pursue it.

I will be sure to report all the *magical* moments and experiences I have with our neighbors in Oregon. In the meantime, enjoy this *magical* season, take time to watch the leaves fall, smell the rain in the air, and be thankful for the blessings Mother Earth has given us in the past season, as well as this *magical* and beautiful time of year!

Wave your wand and "**WORK YOUR MAGIC**"!!

*Diana*

*Networking is something  
that will never be  
replaced.*

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# BREAKING NEWS

*President Quinn received the following announcement from the NCI Committee she would like to share with everyone:*

On Sunday, August 24, the NCI Committee received the resignation of NCI Director, Peggy Flynn. The NCI Committee met on August 28 and agreed to accept Peggy's resignation effective August 24.

Fortunately, Dema Harris, the recently-retired NCI Director, has agreed to step in as the Interim NCI Director. What this means to us is that we'll have a series of Professional Development sessions in 2015. The show will go on!

Dema's contact information will remain the same if anyone wishes to communicate with her: [demah@wsu.edu](mailto:demah@wsu.edu); 206.276.9181.

The NCI Committee agreed to revisit the RFQ that was previously issued, amend it if needed, and reissue the RFQ later this year. If anyone is aware of someone who might be a good fit for Institute Director, please share that information with someone from the NCI Committee. The NCI Committee members are: Kristie Smithers, Kacie Paxton, and Johni Blankenship, from AAMC; Tracy Davis, Kelly Burgoyne (Ruth Post, after September 19), and Peggy Hawker, from OAMR; and Carol Etgen, Virginia Olson, and Ali Spietz, from WMCA. Your suggestions are encouraged.

If you have other concerns or comments regarding the Northwest Clerks Institute, feel free to share them with an NCI Committee member.

## SAVE THE DATES!

### Scholarships Available for the WMCA Annual Conference!

This year's conference will be held in Vancouver from March 18 - 20, 2015. Scholarship applications will be available on the WMCA website very soon and will be due on **December 5, 2014**.

Questions on this scholarship opportunity may be directed to Dee Roberts, City of South Bend at [dee.roberts@southbend-wa.gov](mailto:dee.roberts@southbend-wa.gov).

### WMCA Spring Academy Scholarship Opportunity – March 17, 2015

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 will also be due **December 5, 2014**. For more information, please contact Dee Roberts, City of South Bend at [dee.roberts@southbend-wa.gov](mailto:dee.roberts@southbend-wa.gov)



**APPLICATION DUE DATE**  
**DECEMBER 5, 2014**

# CLERK OF THE MONTH



**Debbie, Clark MMC**  
**City Clerk, City of Pasco**

Debbie, originally from Portland Oregon, has had a diverse work history before joining the land of the Clerks. From picking strawberries (only lasted two-days!), to babysitting, to polishing shoes, working in medical billing, title and escrow, managing a real estate office and obtaining her Oregon Real Estate license, Debbie's journey has no shortage of excitement!

Pasco ..... where does the time go?!



It was during her adventures in Kennewick that Debbie met and fell in love with Bob Spaulding .... "my better half" aka significant other! Together they enjoy to travel, ski, hike, and sail wherever the road / waterways and the seasons permit! From Sun Peaks Canada for skiing, to Lake Chelan, Snake River and Canadian Gulf Islands for sailing – we are out there!

As life adventures of traveling in Wyoming, Nevada, Utah, and Idaho transpired – Debbie found she had the opportunity to settle in one place and that is when the world of "clerk-dom" began. In 1992, Debbie started working as the Deputy City Clerk for the City of Portola, California. She described living in the quiet town of Portola in the Sierra Nevada Mountains as "wonderful!" From fishing at Antelope Lake to cross country skiing at Grey Eagle .... life was an adventure!



Debbie said, "as my Mother always told us girls while growing up, 'Life is like being on a merry – go-round, when the gold ring comes by reach out and grab it!!' Life is an adventure and adventures await us all!"



Upon leaving California and returning to Portland, Oregon, Debbie realized that she preferred a much smaller community. In 1993 she applied for and accepted a position with the City of Kennewick as the Community and Economic Development Administrative Assistant to the Director of Planning. This position also included maintaining the position of Secretary to the Planning Commission and working closely with the City Clerk – Marge Price. Yes! Debbie was fortunate enough to work with the famous Marge Price – what a tremendous opportunity.

## Memberships and positions held:

IIMC – 2006 – present

WMCA – 2006 – present

WMCA Executive Board Member 2009 to 2014

Benton Franklin River Heritage Foundation Board Member - 2007

Master Municipal Clerk - 2013

Soroptimist International Pasco, Kennewick member & Board Member – 2000

Host Clerk - WMCA 2014 Conference - 2014

Certified Apprentice Beekeeper – 2014



After a 13-year adventure with the City of Kennewick it was time to stretch her abilities and in 2006 accepted the position of City Clerk for the City of Pasco. July of this year marked her 8-year anniversary with

# LEGISLATIVE REPORT

## September Legislative Report

By Sandy Paul, MMC

The Legislative news this month is that there is little news. September will see vacations come to an end and attention once again be turned back to business.

Additional training for the new requirement that all elected and staff be educated in open meetings, records management, and public disclosure is as follows. 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 - 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 at the Washington State Archives; and the Washington State Attorney General's website.

Since there is little new to report, let me share a personal experience in the Legislative arena. A group which calls itself the Coalition to Complete SR 167 has been formed. Its exact origin of this group; some in the know have said, was a coalition started by the governor. It seems that it might have been initiated by private industry, most of which benefit directly from completion of SR 167, if it weren't a real 'coalition' that looks a lot like a public/private partnership.

This group, in conjunction with the City of Tacoma, the Port of Tacoma, and other Valley Cities, sponsored a public forum. Fifty of the Puget Sound area incumbents and candidates were invited to attend this forum and present to the public the answers to 4 identical questions that would assist voters in making educated choices on their ballots. Of the fifty invitees, 22 attended, divided down the middle between Democrat and Republican parties. Most gave lip service to supporting issues that related to cities, such as sharing revenues from liquor. Cannabis revenues were never mentioned. Other responses were predictable with very few real and innovative answers. The best of the responses came from Laurie Jinkins (D), 27<sup>th</sup> District, and Jack Dovey, (R), 30<sup>th</sup> District, and a friend and mentor. Jack, however, did not share his 'solution' to education and transportation funding with the group. If that was a political move on his part, so be it, but voters really, really ARE clamoring for solutions that they can embrace. Pam Roach, (R), 31<sup>st</sup> District, sat at the dais taking selfies on her iPad!

The point: the final question asked of the panel of 22 incumbents/candidates was 'would you support a tax package to fund transportation and, if so, please stand up'. Eleven stood.

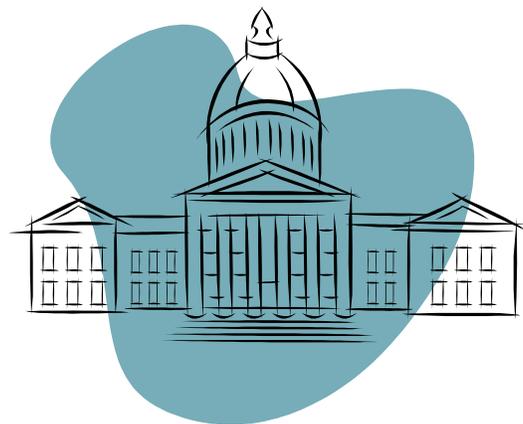
The takeaway from this forum is that it is unlikely that the state of Washington can expect much different from its representatives in the Legislative session beginning in January 2015. The balance of the legislature is before us all in November.



This just in regarding the AWC Regional Meetings: To improve efficiency, AWC is contacting several larger county and city regional partner organizations to schedule joint meetings that will serve in place of the traditional AWC Regional Meeting for your area. The dates for these joint meetings are still pending, and

registration processes have not been finalized. AWC will be broadcasting two Regional Meetings that can be viewed via webinar, one on the east side of the state and another on the west side, so that you not only have the opportunity to call in and listen from wherever you are, but you can also hear about east side and west side specific issues.

- Pierce County Cities and Towns – *Date to be determined*
- Snohomish County Cities and Towns – *Confirmed: November 13*
- Sound Cities Association (King County) – *Late October, Date to be confirmed*



## Why Most Local Governments Don't Have Casual Dress on Fridays

*Below is an actual scenario that could have happened in any local government unit.*

**Memo No. 1 - Week 1.** The County Board is pleased to announce that it has approved a Casual Dress Day program. Beginning this Friday, all County employees may wear casual attire to work on Fridays.

**Memo No. 2 - Week 2.** Because we serve the public, the County Board would like to share some additional guidance regarding our newly established Casual Dress Day program. Many Board members believe athletic T-shirts, sweatpants, spandex shorts, leather micro-miniskirts, and moccasins are inappropriate attire for employees to wear to work on Fridays.

**Memo No. 3 - Week 3.** The County Board would like to remind everyone that the term "Casual Fridays" refers only to employee dress, not employee work attitudes.

**Memo No. 4 - Week 4.** A seminar has been scheduled for all County employees on Wednesday. This seminar, entitled: How to Dress for Casual Dress Days will be held in the County Board room and be conducted at two different times to accommodate all employees' work schedules. The first seminar will be at 9 a.m. and the second at 3 p.m. Attendance at this seminar is mandatory for all employees.

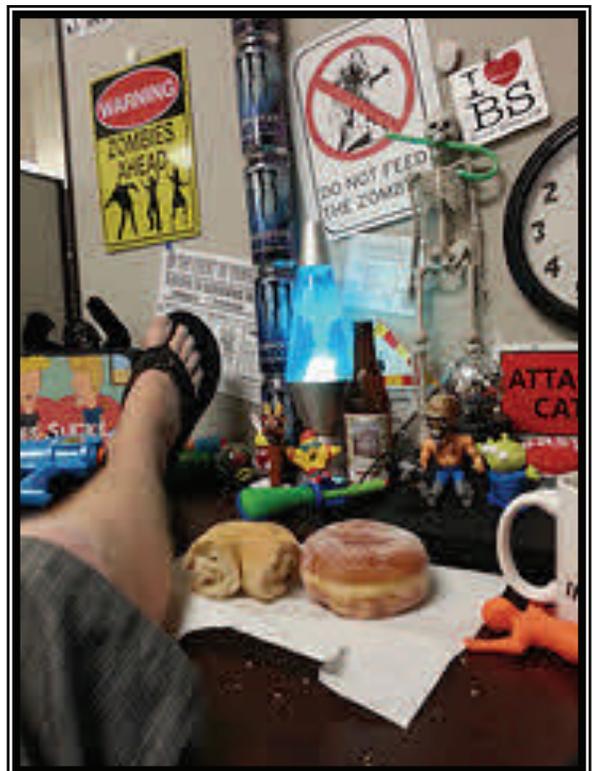
**Memo No. 5 - Week 5.** Based on the feedback received from last week's seminars, the County Board has authorized the creation of a 14-member Casual Day Task Force {CDTF} committee to solicit employee suggestions and publish written guidelines for proper dress standards for County Casual Fridays.

**Memo No. 6 - Week 7.** The Casual Day Task Force committee has completed an easy-to-read, 34-page manual entitled "*Relaxing Dress Without Relaxing Standards.*" This manual is now at the printers and should be distributed next week. If you do not receive your personal copy by next Thursday, contact your unit's CDTF representative. Upon receipt of your manual, make a point to read Chapter 9, "*You Are What You Wear,*" and also refer to the appendix 5 titled: "*Home Casual versus Business Casual*" before leaving for work on Friday.

**Memo No. 7 - Week 10.** The County Board would like to inform all employees that arrangements have been made with our Employee Assistant Plan (EAP) provided to expand this service to provide 24-hour telephone counseling for any employee having difficulty adjusting to our new County Casual Friday Dress program.

**Memo No. 8 - Week 12.** Due to recent unforeseen budget constraints, the County Board regrets to inform all County employees that it is no longer able to financially support a Casual Dress Friday program. Effective immediately, the County Casual Dress Friday program is hereby terminated.

[www.localgovernmenthumor.blogspot.com](http://www.localgovernmenthumor.blogspot.com)



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:

**Tracy Wilson, City of Shelton**  
**Linda Vannoster, City of Prescott**

Congratulations to our newest Certified Municipal Clerks:

Gwen Robson, CMC, City of Orting  
Shannon Corin, CMC, City of Bremerton



CMC

Congratulations to our newest Master Municipal Clerks:

Laurie Ulrich, MMC, City of Algona  
Alice J. Attwood, MMC, City of Tonasket



MMC

## WE NEED YOU!

The Secretary of State is looking for a large city representative (greater than 5,000 population), to serve on the Archives Oversight Committee. The AOC meets quarterly, at one of the State Archive branch locations. Arrangements for phone or video conferencing can be arranged if you are not able to attend in person. This is a great opportunity with minimal commitment to learn about the future of the State Archives and contribute as a local representative. For more information or to submit your name, please e-mail Jill Boltz @ [jillb@kitsaptransit.com](mailto:jillb@kitsaptransit.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](mailto:mvaliant@ci.tumwater.wa.us) & Rachel Shaw at [rshaw@cityofprosser.com](mailto:rshaw@cityofprosser.com)