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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

Dee Roberts, MMC



I would like to dedicate the president's message this month to Hester Gilleland. Hester was a long time City Clerk (Treasurer) with over 40 years of dedicated service to this amazing profession. She began working with her mom at the City of Ocean Shores when her mom was the Ocean Shores Clerk/Treasurer. She used to reminisce about the days working with her mom and how much she enjoyed that time and how smart her mom was. Of course I always asked her wasn't it difficult working for your mom and she said they had a great time working together.

When her mom retired in 1976, Hester moved into the Clerk/Treasurer position. She worked at Ocean Shores until 1989, and then she and her family moved to Coulee Dam where she worked as their City Clerk until 1994. She loved that part of the state and would travel back to that area in the summer and enjoy the time away with her family and grandkids. In 1994 she relocated to the City of Gold Bar and worked there until she moved to the City of Raymond in 2005 to fill the vacant Clerk/Treasurer position after Janet Aho retired.



I met Hester in 2005, just after she moved to Raymond, and we became close friends. She had so much knowledge and I was brand new as a Clerk/Treasurer and not particularly confident in what I was doing. Hester patiently took me under her wing and helped guide me through some of the tougher parts of the job and offered me a great deal of encouragement along the way. I always knew that I could call her and ask her anything and she would have the answer – whether it was about levies, BARS numbers (she was actually part of the committee that helped create the BARS system – yes, she is partly to blame! 😊), ordinances, resolutions or just helping me figure out why I didn't balance at the end of the month.

She shared my love of WMCA and we traveled together to all of the annual conferences after we met. Dancing on banquet night was always her favorite! Some of the best times we had were the times in the car traveling to and from conferences talking about work and life in general.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED



In November she was diagnosed with Stage 4 lung cancer. She knew that she had the fight of her life ahead of her so she retired from the City of Raymond at the end of November and moved to Aberdeen to live with her daughter, Becca, and her family including her three grandkids which Hester loved beyond words.

She fought so hard – harder than I think she thought she was capable of. She told me after a trip we took in April (our last time together) that she wasn't afraid of dying but she was worried about her kids and grandkids – that she didn't want to leave them.

Hester died on July 11th. She has left me with memories I will cherish forever and knowledge about this thing we call clerks that I could have never learned on my own. She was a true mentor.



*Be fearless in the pursuit
of what sets your soul on fire*



FEATURED CLERK

Shawn Campbell, MMC City of Auburn, Deputy City Clerk



Shawn Campbell is the Deputy City Clerk for the City of Auburn (since 2012), and is *very* proud of having recently earned her MMC. She previously worked for the City of Bonney Lake, and left only after realizing there were no opportunities for advancement.

Shawn loves working with people and enjoys the mysteries she gets to investigate and history of the Clerk's office. Because, as for most City Clerk staff these days, public disclosure is such a big part of the job, Shawn finds herself reading a lot of other employee's emails, which is not her favorite part of the job. She would much rather be involved in the other aspects of the Clerk's world. Shawn's biggest current challenge is getting everything done. Shifting priorities is a constant for her.

In addition to her own job, Shawn is currently a Board Member for WMCA and serves on the Membership and Conference Planning Committees.

When asked how NCI (PD classes) benefited her, and whether she developed any long lasting friendships, Shawn said, "Ahhhhh PD... I truly believe without attending PDs I would not be where I am today. When I attended PDI I was not sure where I wanted to go or what I wanted to be 'When I Grew Up.' I know it sounds silly but I walked away from PDI with a knowledge that there was a place in the world that I fit! I truly enjoyed all three years and learned so much about myself and my chosen profession that I don't believe you could get without the intensive weeklong training.

My PD Buddies are the BEST!!! These ladies have been there for me over the last decade for so much both personally and professionally. I know I could call any one of the group and they would do whatever they could to help!! They are truly some of my closest friends and amazing people."

Shawn has been married to Blaine for 23 years, and has two amazing daughters. Kailey is 22, hoping to return to the University of Washington in the fall and living in Kirkland, and Sydney is 18, just graduated from high school and will be attending Gonzaga University in the fall. Shawn's looking for suggestions about how to handle being an empty-nester for the first time in their lives!



Schnauzers have a special place in the hearts of the Campbell household. Missy is an 11 year-old salt and pepper Miniature Schnauzer, and Auggie is a 7 year-old white Schnauzer/Westie mix (or so they believe!), who was rescued and brought into the family years ago. Sadly, another beloved Schnauzer passed away in July from heart failure.

Shawn and the family love to take day trips and explore new areas. Her life is going to be different without the kids around to join them; a lot of her time has been taken up with their lives, sports and hobbies!

When asked about a particularly memorable vacation, Shawn said, "So we love the beach for vacations. But we also like to just go and "end up somewhere." So we decided to go down Highway 101 towards California and we would just stop and find a hotel when we were tired..... NOW we know there are very LONG stretches of that road with no towns, restaurants or hotels. We did finally find a place to stay very late at night and a little sketchy but mostly clean."



Shawn would love to be a City Clerk in the next five years, have both girls graduated with their undergrad degrees and spend time traveling down some of those long "who knows where they'll go" highways!

2017 FALL MINI CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Registration for the WMCA 2017 Fall Mini Conference on October 5 & 6, 2017 at the Red Lion in Pasco will open on Monday, August 8!



On **Thursday, October 5, 2017** we will be hosting our third **Athenian Dialogue**. The book is *The Forgotten 500: The Untold Story of the Men Who Risked All for the Greatest Rescue Mission of World War II* by Gregory A. Freeman. Anne Uecker, City Clerk for the City of St. Francis, Wisconsin will be our facilitator. Only 35 spots are available on a first come-first served basis.

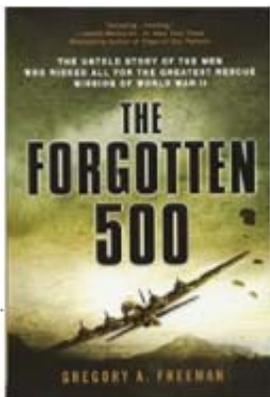
On **Friday, October 6, 2017**, Tonia Sugarman, Director of Education at AWC will be leading us through the "The Five Practices of Exemplary Leadership" for the **Fall Academy**.



More details and a link to register are available at www.wmcaclerks.org/2017miniconference.

Questions? Contact Ali Spietz, Education Coordinator at ali.spietz@mercergov.org.

2017 FALL MINI CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE



**The book being discussed at the Athenian Dialogue*

Athenian Dialogue – October 5, 2017
Fall Academy – October 6, 2017

Red Lion Hotel
Pasco, WA

Registration Deadline: August 8, 2017
COMBINED COST: \$250 (Lunch Included)

Need a scholarship to pay for Registration?
WMCA can help you out! ! [APPLY TODAY](#)

Scholarship applications are due: **September 1, 2017**.
For more information contact Megan Gregor,
City of Renton at: mgregor@rentonwa.gov

Please Note: You can apply for a scholarship to pay for registration for both or for only one, just be sure to specify that on your application

BUDGETING FOR EDUCATION

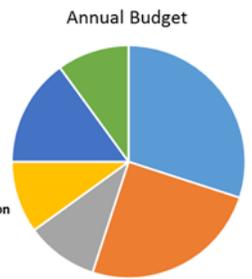
As we enter the budget season, remember to thank your elected officials and/or supervisors for their past and future support of your clerk education and certification.

The educational opportunities that WMCA and NCI offer are critical for continuing your professional development, reducing risk for your jurisdiction, stimulating creativity in your position and organization, and for networking with others. Your membership in clerk organizations (IIMC, WMCA and regional clerks' associations) encourages professional development, provides standards and basic levels of competency, and recognizes outstanding performance by those of its membership who desire to excel.

A perk of your WMCA membership is access to the Members Only portion of the website, which contains meeting materials and presentations from the March 2017 Annual Conference.

Don't forget to budget for the March 2018 Conference in Pasco and support the organization that supports you!

- Joanna Sanders & Terri Wright, Education Committee Co-Chairs, and Ali Spietz, Education Coordinator



WMCA APPAREL—PRE-SALE ORDERS

Jerzees Nublend ¼ Zip Sweatshirt - \$35
 Sizes: Small, Medium, Large, X-Large,
 XX-Large, XXX-Large
 \$35/each

Sports Wick Stretch ½ Zip Pullover –
 Ladies - \$42
 Sizes: Small, Medium, Large, X-Large,
 XX-Large; XXX-Large
 \$42/each

Both styles in all sizes will be available
 to try on at the Fall Mini-Conference.

Orders can also be placed
 by contacting:

Debbie Jermann, MMC
 c/o C-TRAN
 PO Box 2529
 Vancouver, WA 98668
debbiej@c-tran.org
 360-906-7303



MEMBERSHIP REMINDER



- Did your job title change?
- New boss or supervisor?
- Did you receive your CMC or MMC?

Please take a moment to update your WMCA Membership profile.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

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

Debra M. Hays—City of Dayton
Katherine Allen—City of Black Diamond

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST CERTIFIED MUNICIPAL CLERKS:

Maureen Burwell, CMC, City of Enumclaw
Susan Haigh, CMC, City of Bonney Lake
Korinne Henry, CMC, North Kitsap School District
Joshua Stecker, CMC, City of Port Townsend
Angela Woods, CMC, City of Fife

CMC

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 & Rachel Shaw at rshaw@ci.prosser.wa.us