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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

The 48th Annual WMCA Conference is less than two weeks away – how can that be!? It does not seem possible that it has been a year since I took office as your President. It has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life and one that I will remember forever. The new friends that I have made, the places that I have been able to see and experience and the educational opportunities have been amazing. It is awe inspiring to see the dedication, commitment and talent that each and every one of you have for this profession.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at the conference. As I have said in previous messages the educational opportunities that have been put together are excellent and really hit on several new and different areas within a clerk's duties. The Education Committee really took suggestions to heart and they have come up with some fresh and exciting educational sessions!

Again, thank you for the opportunity to represent you and serve as YOUR President. I am looking forward to my position as Immediate Past President under the tutelage of your new President Virginia Olsen. I know that she will be a great leader!

I am honored to be a part of such an amazing association and every day I will ***Be fearless in the pursuit of what sets MY soul on fire!***



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

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SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who applied for scholarships! We are happy to announce that we have been able to provide 29 scholarships in the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year, for a total of **\$19,425!**

- **Professional Development Scholarship Awards: 13 (\$13,000)**

- ◇ Marissa Canales, City of Connell, PD1
- ◇ Maria DeGoede, Town of La Conner, PD2
- ◇ Tami Justice, City of Rainier, PD1
- ◇ Teresa Lopez, City of Union Gap, PD1
- ◇ Maria Medlock, City of Mabton, PD1
- ◇ Kim Michaels, Town of Lind, PD1
- ◇ John Millard, City of Tenino, PD1
- ◇ Andrea Moore, Town of La Conner, PD1
- ◇ Tami Pevy, City of Sultan, PD2
- ◇ Joël Pilkinton, City of Tonasket, PD1
- ◇ Jacqueline Renteria, City of Sunnyside, PD1
- ◇ Flora Rogers, City of Omak, PD1
- ◇ Michelle Skylstad, City of Okanogan, PD3



- **2018 IIMC Conference Registration Scholarship Award: 1 (\$500)**

- ◇ Deborah Estrada, City of Sunnyside

- **Fall Mini-Conference Scholarship Awards: 5 (\$1,150)**

- ◇ Darla Clifton, City of White Salmon
- ◇ Maria DeGoede, Town of La Conner
- ◇ Ashley Pearson, City of Auburn
- ◇ Aimee Pearson, City of Puyallup
- ◇ Josh Roberson, City of Mabton

- **2018 WMCA Conference First Time Attendee Scholarship Awards: 4 (\$2,400)**

- ◇ Andrea Moore, Town of La Conner
- ◇ Tiana Rowland, Douglas County
- ◇ Melissa Thompson, Okanogan County Commissioner's Office
- ◇ Gayle Carrasco, City of Mesa

- **2018 WMCA Conference Registration Scholarship Awards: 6 (\$2,375)**

- ◇ Judy Brown, City of Bridgeport
- ◇ Korinne Henry, North Kitsap School District
- ◇ Tami Justice, City of Rainier
- ◇ John Millard, City of Tenino
- ◇ Tami Pevey, City of Sultan
- ◇ Amber Scott, City of Omak



FUNDRAISING AT THE 2018 WMCA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Don't forget to bring an item and/or a basket for the silent auction. Remember, all proceeds from the auctions support our Scholarship Fund, making it possible for more clerks to benefit from the many great educational opportunities offered by WMCA and NCI. Not sure of what to bring? Think of fun themes for baskets – Games/Movie Night, Spa/Pamper Yourself, Gourmet Cooking, Pets, Sports Teams, Arts & Crafts.....the more baskets we have, the more fun it is! (and the more money we raise for scholarships!)

If you don't want to put together a whole basket, please bring a few items to contribute to our "Big Kahuna" baskets, which will be auctioned off during our live auction.

The four themes for these baskets are:

1. Seattle Sports (Seahawks, Mariners, Sounders, Storm)
2. Kids/Family Activities (Games, Crafts, Movie/Museum Passes, Zoo Memberships, etc.)
3. Wine/Chocolate
4. The "**3-B Basket**" Beer, Barbeque, and Booze – need we say more?



GRAND RAFFLE



If you didn't pre-purchase your tickets for the Grand Raffle, don't worry! They will be available during the Conference. The drawing will be held at the banquet on Thursday, March 15, with cash prizes of \$1,000, \$750, and \$500. Again, the money raised from raffle tickets sales goes to our Scholarship Fund.

WMCA STORE

We have some fun items available for purchase at the WMCA Store.

Back by popular demand: Beaded lanyards. \$10 each or two for \$18. We all attend many conferences and workshops where we're given a name badge to wear. Now you can display your name AND accessorize!

New this year: (and we're very excited about this!) Custom-made WMCA wine, from Yakima Valley's Bonair Winery, paired with a WMCA corkscrew, for just \$20 per set.

We will also be offering t-shirts in various styles and colors for \$8 each or two for \$15.

And, back by popular demand – Strands of beads for our "**Heads or Tails**" game will sell for \$2 each. We will play our "fun"draising Heads or Tails game, along with the live auction, on Wednesday evening.



FEATURED CLERK

Debbie Barham, City of Richland

Debbie Barham, the Deputy City Clerk for the City of Richland, finds her joy in helping others. Whether you are a council member, citizen, or fellow staff member, her best shines through when what she calls her “civil servant” is called upon. Like most of us, Debbie did not dream of nor plan on becoming a City Clerk. She fell into the job after applying for another job at the City. It was after taking a “Nuts and Bolts New Clerks” training that she knew it was a profession she wanted to be in for the rest of her career.



Debbie says “I liken my work as Deputy City Clerk to being a Stage Manager and Coach because I enjoy doing all the behind the scenes work to make the city successful and I like to train others so that they can perform their job successfully. I prefer not to be center stage or speak publicly.”

Debbie obtained her CMC after taking NCI Professional Development classes, and is almost ready to obtain her MMC. She values the friendships she has made through the years in this profession, both personally and professionally. Her absolute favorite PD 4 class was on public speaking. While she still may not like public speaking, she feels more confident in doing so after taking the class. Debbie has served on many of the WMCA committees, including the Fundraising, Scholarship, and Audit Committees, and served as co-chair of the Fundraising Committee one year.



Born in Walla Walla, Debbie is the youngest of three children, including a sister who is six-years older and a brother who is nine-years older than she is. Debbie was extremely shy when she was little, so her siblings were the ones entrusted with doing a lot of babysitting. She feels blessed that her 94 year-old mother is still living on her own in Walla Walla. Scott and Debbie married in 1991 and they have two wonderful sons; Justin is 25, living in Virginia and working as a research assistant, and Andrew is 23 and is in the Commercial Electrician apprenticeship program through I.B.E.W.

Milo and Casey are Debbie and Scott’s feline companions. Milo is Justin’s cat (until Justin returns to the Pacific Northwest!) and Casey was a gift from City Clerk Marcia Hopkins. Milo is warming up to them, and Casey lovingly drools when held and petted.

As a Deacon at Meadow Springs Presbyterian Church, Debbie is called upon to help church members by phone and in-person, recognizing birthdays and anniversaries and in prayer. Debbie assists in preparing food for after-church fellowship services as well as for weddings, funeral or memorial services. She has served as the Treasurer for the Deacons for almost six years. The money goes towards helping families and individuals in need in receipt of financial assistance with needs such as rent, gasoline, food, utility payments, bus passes, and medicine. She feels blessed to be part of an organization with a strong desire and ability to help those in need.



FEATURED CLERK, CONTINUED



After looking for several years, Debby and Scott purchased a lake house at Diamond Lake in 2006. Although a work in progress, it is truly their dream come true. Friends and family often spend time at the lake with them, and they enjoy quick getaway weekends on their own. Debby says “It is our happy place. The neighbors are wonderful and the lake is pristine. The water is refreshing in the summer and we can often walk on it in the middle of winter. Scott enjoys fishing at the lake and I love swimming, kayaking, sunning, jet-skiing and boat cruising around it with friends and family. We

have hosted three family reunions there and it is our favorite place to be for Independence Day, Thanksgiving and New Years Eve. This past President’s Day weekend, we and three other couples were there enjoying the snow, playing board and card games, eating and drinking great foods and brews and laughing. I am thankful that we have this place to share with our family and friends.”

Scott and Debby enjoy traveling, and were able to visit the Natural Museum of History and the world’s largest Costco (!) in Salt Lake City, while traveling to Tucson, Arizona for Scott’s mother’s 90th birthday celebration, Bryce Canyon and Zion National Parks were “beautiful beyond words,” and they hope to go back to hike the narrows. They spent time on Fremont Street in Las Vegas on the same trip, and



Debby said it’s true about what happens in Vegas - staying in Vegas!



Debby hopes to work as a Municipal Clerk until she can retire, and then would perhaps like to work as a part-time realtor/broker from the lake house, and do some traveling to wherever the boys end up. After retirement she’ll be happy to keep life simple, with friends and family nearby.

LEGISLATURE AMENDS THE PUBLIC RECORDS ACT

On Feb. 23, the state legislature passed Senate Bill 6617. The bill retroactively exempts the legislature from the Public Records Act, except for certain records such as legislator’s calendars, correspondence with non-constituents, and final disciplinary reports. These records will be subject to disclosure beginning in July 2018. The bill went through an expedited process and was passed within two days of its initial introduction.

Late last year, ten news organizations filed a lawsuit against the legislature for failure to produce records under the PRA. A county court judge subsequently ruled that the legislature violated the PRA by failing to disclose records. The legislature is appealing this ruling to the Washington State Supreme Court.

The Governor vetoed SS6617 on Thursday, March 1, 2018.

PD SCHOLARSHIPS - APPLY NOW!

The Scholarship Committee would like to remind you that scholarships are available to help you meet your educational goals!!



PD I—June 3-8, 2018
PD II—June 10-15, 2018
PD III—June 17-22, 2018
PD IV—June 11-14, 2018

Deadline to apply - April 11, 2018

For those who have achieved their CMC...

Professional Development IV — Extended Deadline: April 15, 2018

As part of the Washington Municipal Clerks Association (WMCA) efforts to encourage IIMC Certified Municipal Clerks to take advantage of continuing educational opportunities, a scholarship program was instituted in 1998. This scholarship program was renamed in 2001 to recognize the commitment and dedication of Margery Price to the education and professional development of clerks in Washington State and Region IX.

[Scholarship Guidelines](#)

APPLY
NOW!

Professional Development Institute I, II, & III



For more Info:

Tamara Gunter, Chair

tamara.gunter@cityofbg.org

First time Institute (PD I) scholarship applicants are eligible for award of both registration and lodging if needed. PD II and PD III scholarship awards are for registration only. You can find more information about scholarship awards and requirements at WMCA's [website](#).

2018-19 WMCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

On January 3, 2018 a certification of candidate report was issued for the 2018-19 Executive Committee Election. On January 26, 2018, email ballot information, voting instructions, and a link to the electronic voting software was sent to each active WMCA member in good standing asking them to vote. The election closed on Friday, February 16th, and the results were forwarded to Molly Towslee, Elections Auditor by the Elections Officer, Leana Johnson on February 21, 2018.

An independent review of the elections results were completed and the Elections Auditor finds the election process and results to be sound. Out of 329 active members, 81 ballots were cast with the following results sorted high to low:

Candidate	Total Votes	Percentage
<u>President Elect (1-year term)</u> Paula Swisher, CMC, Clerk-Treasurer City of Brier	80	100%
<u>Vice-President (1-year term)</u> Debbie Jermann, MMC, Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board C-TRAN	81	100%
<u>Secretary (2-year term)</u> Kay Kammer, MMC, City Clerk City of Battle Ground	80	98.77%
Write-In: Jennifer Bell, Clerk/Treasurer City of Everson	1	1.23%
<u>Two Board Member Positions (3-year term)</u> Lisa Neissl, CMC, City Clerk City of College Place	72	88.89%
Donald Ross, CMC, Deputy City Clerk City of Westport	54	66.67%
Write-In: Darla Reese, MMC, City Clerk City of Granite Falls	1	1.23%

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

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

Mandy Hadeen – City of Everson
Linda Hannon – City of Mossyrock
Melissa Thompson – Okanogan County
Norma Martinez – City of Granger
Nancy Mortensen - City of Granger
Liliana Torres – City of Toppenish
Faviola Gil – City of Toppenish



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