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Founded in 1969, 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

Paula Swisher, CMC



What the heck happened to summer? It can't be fall already. Yep it's here, kids going back to school, budget season heating up and our Fall Education Days all for your September pleasure.

I hope that those of you who have signed up for the Fall Education Days enjoy the Athenian Dialogue on September 19th. This session will be facilitated by Anne Uecker, City Clerk-Treasurer from St. Francis, Wisconsin. I hope you enjoy exploring the book *Hidden Figures*, by Margot Lee Shetterly.

Follow that up on September 20th with the very important topic of "*Recognizing/Understanding Threats and Potential Attacks and the Clerk's Role in Emergency Crisis Management.*" These classes will be facilitated by Maureen Kane and her daughter Maura Kane-McAuliffe. This should be a fabulous session with lots of information that you can take back to your city and put into practice but hopefully never need.

I won't be joining you in beautiful Leavenworth as I will be attending the Oregon Association of Municipal Records (OAMR) conference in Bend, Oregon. From their schedule it looks like it will be an exciting and educational conference.



The excitement in my life this past month was making a quick decision to uproot and move out to Granite Falls. We had a great little rental property fall into our laps that I just couldn't pass up. The people out there are so friendly and welcoming. My next door neighbor has already been over (the very day we moved in) and offered me BBQ and my mail lady leaped out of her truck to come welcome us to the neighborhood and introduce herself. The peace and soul soothing serenity I already feel moving out there is so refreshing.

ON THE INSIDE...

Membership News	Page 2
Featured Clerk	Page 3
Historical Review	Page 4

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONT.

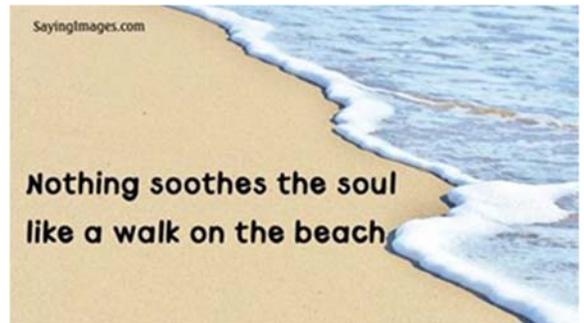
At the end of this month I will be celebrating my 51st birthday. I love my birthday and I'm not sure how I can top last year's celebration with the many friends that joined me out at the race track but we are sure going to try.

Pictured below are Laurie Cassel, my daughter Kayla, Virginia Olsen, Shawn Campbell, Elizabeth Adkisson and Carrie Snowden. (Liz's now husband Brian is in the first picture as well.)



I hope you all keep making time to be good to yourselves. Fall is busy but you are important so make some time for yourself. The beach is always a nice way to unwind and let the waves wash away your cares for a bit.

~ Paula



MEMBERSHIP NEWS



Welcome New Members!!

Miranda Doll—Town of Eatonville
Paul White—Port of Seattle
Amy Dressler—Port of Seattle

FEATURED CLERK



Help us welcome this month's Featured Clerk, Braedi Brown, Clerk to the Board/Administrative Specialist at The Port of Port Angeles.

Braedi began her position with The Port of Port Angeles in April of this year. This position, as well as her previous, is a dual role in which she is able to perform a mixture of tasks. Just the way she likes it!

When asked what she enjoys most about her job, Braedi said, "I love the variety and how things are always changing. I literally learn something new every day. I love learning, it could probably be considered one of my hobbies."

As for her biggest challenge, Braedi said, "that would be legislature and codes. Reading legal codes can seem like a daunting and dry task, it can be difficult to read something in the way it was meant to be interpreted, especially when a lot of them are not extremely specific." I think we can all agree with her there!

Although she does not consider herself actively involved in her community, Braedi stays well informed through her job and has joined some groups there. Once she is more comfortable in her role, Braedi plans to become more active in WMCA.

Braedi is a very busy single mom to two boys. Maeson is twelve and entering middle school this year, and Bentley is a three year old wild and crazy red head. Understandably, Braedi does not have a lot of free time and the time she has with her boys is often spent traveling with her oldest son's baseball team. Braedi said, "baseball consumes our life March-August." Besides working full time, and being a devoted mother, Braedi is also a full-time online student through Central Washington University, double majoring in Psychology and Law & Justice. She will finish both of her bachelor's degrees in Spring of 2020. Congratulations Braedi and keep up the great work!

When asked about a memorable vacation, Braedi said, "Last March me and the boys took a Royal Caribbean cruise to the Western Caribbean. We went to Cozumel, Jamaica, and the Grand Cayman Islands. The highlight was swimming with turtles!" What a memorable trip for her and her boys!



In five years from now Braedi hopes to, "still be working for the Port with more solid roots planted, own a home and high aspirations of surviving the dreaded high school years with Maeson."

**Welcome to WMCA Braedi!
We look forward to getting to know more about you and see you develop in your new role.**



WMCA HISTORY IN REVIEW

WMCA Historical Committee Newsletter Article – 1996 – 1998

...This month, we take a look back at **1996-1998**...

In 1996...

- The president was Candice Stephens, CMC, City of Newcastle.
- Clerk of the Year was Margery Price, City of Kennewick.
- The spring issue of *The Quill* was presented with updated design.
- There were 57 new WMCA members.
- IIMC was pursuing a presence in Internet access and email, and the sign-up email ended with @compuserve.com.
- Minimum wage in 1996 was \$4.75 per hour!
- Red Bull energy drink entered the U.S. market, Travelocity opened online, and Oprah started her book club.
- Notable book: *A Game of Thrones* by George R.R. Martin.
- For sports fans, Cal Ripkin broke Lou Gehrig's consecutive MLB game record when he played game number 2,131.

In 1997...

- The president was Sharon Mattioli, CMC/AAE, City of Shoreline.
- Clerk of the Year was Linda Alvar, City of Lynnwood.
- The most popular sessions at conference were *Public Disclosure* and *Ethics* classes.
- Legislation that would have nearly doubled the costs for printing legal notices died. It would have required all legal notices published in newspapers to be published in 9 point type!
- The City of Issaquah became the first City Clerk's Office in Washington to become a passport acceptance agency.
- The price of an AM/FM cassette Sony Walkman was \$44.99; a Plymouth/Dodge Neon was \$11,395.
- Purell was launched as a product for consumers (healthcare workers had been using it since 1988).
- WebMD went online and *The Lion King* opened on Broadway.

In 1998...

- The president was Barbara Price, CMC, City of Puyallup.
- Clerk of the Year was Linda Ruehle, CMC, City of Issaquah.
- WMCA started a new scholarship program for CMC's to encourage additional participation in continuing education opportunities.
- *The Quill* had an article about preparing for Y2K beyond computers and software programs, "to include Y2K compliance status of any equipment with embedded chips."
- When talking about the job of City Clerk, the first item on President Price's list was to make the first step getting involved with WMCA. It will do several things: you'll make lasting friendships, you'll share life and work experiences, and you'll get information you need to help you do your job. These words still ring true in 2019!
- A world-changing event this year was the founding of Google.com.
- The price of a Panasonic Camcorder was \$489; cost of the chiropractor to fix your shoulder after holding a camcorder on it.....priceless.
- MP3's were created, Monster.com was founded, Furby was a popular gift, *Who Moved My Cheese?* was a popular book, and Mark McGwire hit 70 home runs.

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 Newsletter Committee Chair, Rachel Shaw at rshaw@ci.prosser.wa.us or Co-Chair Cheryl Xanthos at cdxanthos@redmond.gov.