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DENISE SZABO



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Women, It's Your Turn to Lead

By Jean Sinzdak, Center for American Women and Politics, Rutgers University



Want to use what you know to drive change? Want to have a say in ongoing policy debates? Want to amplify the voices of women offering bold solutions when those issues are on the table? Then maybe you should run for office! As Washington DC veterans have been heard to say, "If you're not at the table, you're probably on the menu." And at the tables where critical, life-altering decisions are made, women have often failed to secure choice locations.

Women who work in municipal government are experts at solving problems, creating innovative programs, managing complex organizations and communicating with the public. You see first-hand that local institutions have the most direct influence and impact on our daily lives. At the Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP), we know that women bring a different perspectives and experiences to their careers in public service – and that changes the way government works. We also know that when women run for political office, they win just as easily as men. The problem: Not enough women run for office. This dearth of women candidates means that far too many governing bodies lack the diversity of voices needed to represent all perspectives in our communities.

We enter 2017 with women stalled in their quest for public leadership. The bright side is that a record number of women continue to serve in Congress. The 115th Congress includes 104 women – a record 21 in the Senate (16D, 5R) and 83 in the House (62D, 21R). Women now comprise 19.4% of Congress. Nine new women of color, all Democrats, will enter Congress: three in the Senate and six in the House. A total of 38 women of color will serve in the 115th Congress.

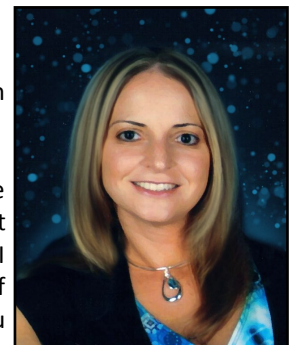
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**A Day in the Life of a Municipal Clerk
Something Old, Something New**

By Michele Lynn Seigfried

I've been in this career for 18 years. (I know. I'm old!) Yet, I still learn something new every day on the job.

After administering the oath of office to a new board member, he asked, "If you didn't have a right hand, what would you raise?" I didn't know...until later that day. I called the Township Attorney just in case I ever had that issue. Not that I've had that issue in my 18 years of experience...but, he thinks I'm crazy anyway. The answer was that you can raise your other hand, or raise nothing. Apparently, there is no law about it, it's just something that's been historically done.



Continued on page 11

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Gloucester:	Patricia Frontino, Glassborough	Sussex:	Amy Lobban, Sandyston Township
Hudson:		Union:	Doreen Cali, Roselle Park
Hunterdon:	Michele Bobowski, Alexandria Township	Warren:	Kelley Smith, Harmony Township
Mercer:	Debra Sopronyi, Hightstown & Roosevelt Boroughs		

Message from President Denise Szabo



Happy New Year and Welcome to 2017!

Many of you are just coming off your reorganization meeting and it's the perfect time to provide your newly elected officials with a good foundation on how local government works. In this regard, MCANJ is again participating in the "New Elected Officials" Seminars sponsored by the NJ League of Municipalities on January 7 at the Hilton Meadowlands Hotel in East Rutherford, and on January 28 at the Hotel ML in Mount Laurel. Immediate Past President Keith Kazmark will present on January 7 and I will present on January 28. [CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION.](#)

Well, we did it! We survived another Presidential Election. The consensus of NJ Municipal Clerks is that most went well. A majority of municipalities were prepared for increased voter turnout but due to long lines at peak voting periods, there were some complaints, but by far the biggest complaint statewide seemed to be the lack of "I voted today" stickers. I found the NJ Division of Elections SVR Database to be very beneficial in answering questions real time. The ability for a voter to also secure their own log-in and password, to check their own voting record and information was also a well received feature of the system.

Many of our members attended the New Jersey League of Municipalities Conference in Atlantic City during the month of November. The MCANJ sponsored sessions were well attended. Thank you to 1st Vice President Dina Zawadski and Education Chairperson Joanne Kwasniewski for planning the sessions, as well as Executive Director Joel Popkin, Public Relations Chairperson Alberto Cabrera, and our members and retirees who helped out at our MCANJ booth.

The International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) Annual Conference will be held from May 21 to May 24, in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. With our own Vinny Buttiglieri serving as IIMC president, the conference is sure to be a good one. For NJ IIMC members who are contemplating attending, we are considering sharing the cost of a charter bus to and from the conference. If you are interested, please contact MCANJ Secretary Eileen Gore secretary@njclerks.org.

As many of you know, MCANJ Attorney Steve Goodell, an avid bicyclist, had a serious biking accident on October 15 when he was out for his usual group training ride. There was no automobile involved but a bunch of cyclist went down and Steve landed badly and suffered a severe spinal injury. Steve was in the hospital for several weeks, followed-up by intensive physical therapy. Steve continues to make progress and MCANJ wishes him well as he recovers. During this period, Steve's colleague, Michael Herbert, Esq., has been representing MCANJ. January is also midway through MCANJ's fiscal year and we are making good progress on several fronts.

Desk Reference Update: Deanna Bennett, Chairperson of our Manual Review Committee, along with a small subcommittee made up of Laura Flagg of Rutgers, Sharon Young the Chairperson of our Records Committee, Kim-Marie White the Chairperson of our Legislative Committee, and Steve Goodfellow our consultant from Access Systems have completely revamped the Records section of our Desk Reference Manual to bring it in line with the 21st Century Municipal Clerk responsibilities as Records Custodian. The anticipated launch is the summer of 2017. Laura will now consult with the current course instructors to obtain their perspective on the chapter's delivery and roll out, including potentially adding a computer lab to the course and updating the new chapter into an online format. Laura will also work with Shannon Hudak of the DCA for updating the state exam. A big thank to members of the committee and instructors for their assistance in this project.

Elections Webinar – SVRS: Over 290 members registered for the first ever MCANJ sponsored webinar on October 5. Unfortunately, there was a technical glitch with the host's third party software and not all members who registered were able to get into the virtual conference room. The Division of Elections and Everyone Counts worked quickly to reschedule a repeat Webinar for October 7. Even with the technical glitch, the feedback was excellent. MCANJ members were able to secure a full 2 CEUs in Elections at no cost and without leaving the comfort of their office. Thank you to Director Robert Giles from the NJ Division of Elections and Brittany Giampola from Everything Counts for partnering with MCANJ on this webinar. I am in discussions now with the Census Bureau about providing a webinar to the membership in the Spring.

S-1046 (OPRA) and S-1045 (OPMA) - Senator Weinberg's office contacted me to set-up a meeting to discuss proposed changes to OPRA and OPMA. I appreciate the Senator's courtesies of reaching out to MCANJ regarding changes to legislation. As of this writing, the meeting is scheduled for December 16. At the NJLM Conference this year a resolution was adopted calling for a study on the cost and application of OPRA. This is the fifth resolution since 2008 that the NJLM has adopted calling for OPRA reform. I will certainly keep the membership informed on any new developments.

A-4006 (Common Sense Shared Services) – This bill, sponsored by Assemblywoman Joann Downey, was recently introduced. This bill adds Monmouth County to the existing legislation as a pilot county. MCANJ opposed the original Common Sense Shared Services legislation when it was adopted because it erodes tenure and removes the impartial nature of the Municipal Clerk's position. There are other issues that we raised, including potential conflicts of interest of a Municipal Clerk serving two Municipalities, and potential conflicts concerning the faithful performance of Election duties, attendance at Council meetings, timely compliance with the Open Public Records Act (OPRA), and other concerns. We will continue to monitor this legislation.



Annual Education Conference April 25, 26, and 27, 2017 - "Everything Counts" Registration Coming Soon

Registration for the Annual Education Conference opens on February 14, 2017.

All registration is online through the MCANJ website. Look for an e-blast with a hyperlink to the registration form.

You must be a paid member of MCANJ to qualify for the early bird registration rate. [Plan ahead as there is no onsite registration.](#)

Registration Options (Registration Opens February 14, 2017)

	<u>Registration on or before March 25, 2017</u>		<u>Registration after March 25, 2017</u>	
	<u>MCANJ Member Rate</u>	<u>Non Member Rate</u>	<u>MCANJ Member Rate</u>	<u>Non Member Rate</u>
<u>Full Conference</u> <u>Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday</u>	\$310	\$440	\$360	\$490
<u>2 Day</u> <u>Tuesday and Wednesday</u>	\$280	\$410	\$330	\$460
<u>2 Day</u> <u>Wednesday and Thursday</u>	\$230	\$360	\$280	\$410

The conference is being held at [The Palace at Somerset Park](#). The Palace is located at 333 Davidson Avenue in Somerset, NJ.

MCANJ has reserved blocks of room at the [Fairfield Inn & Suites](#) ([Booking Link](#) – *Last Day to Book March 22, 2017*) on Davidson Avenue in Somerset, and the [Doubletree by Hilton](#) ([Booking Link](#) – *Last Day to Book April 2, 2017*) on Atrium Drive in Somerset at the special rate of \$119.99 per night. The Fairfield Inn & Suites is right next to The Palace, and the Doubletree is less than one mile away.



THE QUILL

This will be a packed conference with quality education sessions and fun after hour events. On April 25, 2017, there will be a President & Exhibitor Reception from 5-7 PM with live entertainment.

We will also give away Free Style Upgrades and Makeovers to two worthy clerks nominated by you. See the article on page 6 for more details.

We're planning a live band during the Annual Dinner, and we'll also be having our traditional 50/50 Raffle and Silent Auction.

If you are looking for nearby things to do, there many area Attractions. Some local popular eateries are the [Stage House Tavern](#), [Freddy's Sports Bar](#) (a bit more casual), [Piazza Orsillo](#) (awesome pizzeria/Italian restaurant), and [Ovations Restaurant](#). If shopping is your passion, the [Bridgewater Mall](#) is nearby with over 150 stores and restaurants. [Somerset County Tourism](#) is another good resource for things to do in Somerset County.

Nearby New Brunswick has much to offer with over 40 dining options to choose from. Downtown New Brunswick is well known for its arts district and outstanding Jazz programs. During the three day conference in April, live Jazz performances will be featured at local business establishments each evening.

Additionally, [The Stress Factory](#) will host live comedy performances on Wednesday and Thursday, April 26th & 27th. [Alfa Art Gallery](#), the [Zimmerli Museum](#) and the [Hungarian Museum](#) will all be hosting exhibitions.

For anyone extending their stay through Saturday, April 29th, you can experience Rutgers Day and the New Jersey Folk Festival which is open and free to the public, with over 60k attendees last year.

Also available is a self-guided walking tour at <http://thecityofnewbrunswick.org/>. There is also a Historical Walking Tour available for a fee by appointment.

Registration for Exhibitors and Sponsors opens on January 5, 2017. All registration is online through the MCANJ website.

Exhibitor Opportunities

Cost	Exhibitor Type	20 Minute Presentation to Attendees at Breakout Session	Exhibitor Table	Exhibitor ID Badge	(2) Meal Tickets	Ad on MCANJ Website	Listing in MCANJ Program
\$1200	Corporate Exhibitor (Limit 3)	X	X	X	X	*X	X
\$600	Exhibitor		X	X	X	X	X

*Priority Ad Placement

Sponsorship Opportunities

Check One	Cost	Sponsorship Type	Ad on MCANJ Website	Listing in MCANJ Program
	\$1000	Diamond Sponsor	*X	X
	\$500	Gold Sponsor	X	X
	\$250	Silver Sponsor		X
	\$100	Friend of MCANJ Sponsor		X

New! Need-Based Scholarship Opportunity MCANJ Education Conference

In order to encourage attendance at the Annual Education Conference, MCANJ is offering five need-based conference scholarships to current members to promote interest by those members who have not attended prior conferences, or have attended at their own expense. The scholarship covers the cost of the conference. All ancillary costs including hotel and travel are not covered by the scholarship and are the responsibility of the scholarship recipient.

Priority Consideration for Award:

- RMCs who have never previously attended an Education Conference
- RMCs who have previously attended at their own expense
- Non RMCs who have never previously attended an Education Conference and are in the process of taking the classes; the recipient must have successfully completed at least three of the five classes
- Non RMCs who have previously attended at their own expense and are in the process of taking the classes; the recipient must have successfully completed at least three of the five classes
- RMCs who have previously attended at their employer's expense
- Non RMCs who have previously attended at their employer's expense

[CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE AN APPLICATION](#). The submission deadline is January 15, 2017.

Free Style Upgrade and Makeover Municipal Clerks' Association of New Jersey Annual Education Conference – "Everything Counts"

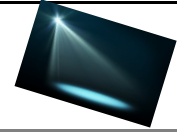
The Conference Committee, co-chaired by John Mitch of Woodbridge Township, and Heather Mailander of the Village of Ridgewood, is working hard to make the conference a memorable one. "Everything Counts" is our conference theme. It's all about the professionalism of our office and everything we do reflects on that—whether it's filling an OPRA request, answering the phone, swearing-in a new mayor, or running an election. It's easy to fall into a rut of complacency but we have the responsibility to uphold the long and distinguished history of being the hub of local government and keepers of our towns. Image is one of the most important tools we have in going about our everyday activities. People judge us within a few seconds by how we look and act. When you know you look good, you feel good. When you dress for the occasion, you tend to act appropriately for the occasion. An improved image will help you achieve personal and professional goals because your confidence, self-esteem and self-assurance will increase just by the way people respond to your appearance.

Our keynote speaker, Carol Ridolphi, will talk about "Presenting Yourself as a Municipal Clerk." A special event is planned in connection with Carol's presentation on April 25, 2017. MCANJ will surprise two clerks (one male and one female) with a free, complete style upgrade and makeover. Candidates must be nominated by members of MCANJ and will be selected by Carol. Once we receive the nominations, nominees will be contacted to obtain their consent to participate. They will be asked to provide two photos and will be required to fill out a brief questionnaire. You have the option of remaining anonymous when you make your nomination(s) and you can also nominate yourself. Winners will be announced during Carol's presentation.

The winners will receive a complimentary private consultation with Carol who will assist them in selecting new business attire including shoes and accessories. She will also have a hair stylist and make-up professional assist with the makeover. This makeover is courtesy of MCANJ—a prize worth \$1000 or more for each winner. The reveal of the newly styled clerks will be held during the Annual Dinner on Wednesday evening, April 26th.

The deadline to submit nominations is March 15, 2017. [CLICK HERE TO FILL OUT A NOMINATION FORM](#) or go to www.nj.clerks.org If you have any questions, please contact Denise Szabo at president@njclerks.org.

MCANJ MEMBER SPOTLIGHT AWARD



Linda Peralata, Green Township, was the most recent recipient of the MCANJ Spotlight Award.

Do you know a MCANJ member municipal, county or freeholder clerk, or deputy who promotes civic involvement by getting involved in activities and events outside of their normal responsibilities as a clerk? In a program named "MCANJ Member Spotlight," we will look to recognize members who are active in either their work or home community. Members to be considered for this recognition can be nominated by other MCANJ members or non-members who wish to bring to our attention what individuals do outside of their job that promotes you being a clerk. [CLICK HERE FOR A NOMINATION FORM](#), or go to www.njclerks.org. Awards will be made quarterly. Do something nice for a deserving clerk and nominate them for this award.

Application for Candidacy

Article VI Section 1.1. of the current Constitution and Bylaws of the Municipal Clerks' Association of New Jersey, Inc., specifies, "Any individual seeking to be a candidate for Secretary must file with the Secretary not later than January 15th of the current year of the Annual Business Meeting. No additional applications shall be accepted after this date."

Article VI Section 1.3. specifies the criteria for eligibility to seek office: "All candidates shall have tenure of office, shall have experience and training for that office, shall have received the certification of Registered Municipal Clerk (RMC), and shall be actively employed as a Municipal Clerk."

For anyone seeking the position of Secretary on the Executive Board for the fiscal year 2017 - 2018, the following application must be filed by January 15, 2017 in order to be eligible for consideration by the membership at the Annual Meeting to be held during the Annual Education Conference in the spring. This position shall serve from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

Applications must be received by January 15, 2017 and must be mailed to Eileen Gore. [CLICK HERE FOR THE APPLICATION.](#)

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PEOPLE PAGE



Pamela Borek, MBA, RMC

Welcome to the People Page! My name is Pamela Borek, and I am the Clerk in Hillsborough Township, Somerset County.

Within every Quill, I look forward to sharing and celebrating your news about your retirements, transitions and other congratulatory milestones. I will respectfully offer our condolences as a Clerk community in your time of sorrow. Most importantly, I look forward to getting to know all of you.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with your news at pborek@hillsborough-nj.org and remember to send pictures.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

CONGRATULATIONS

CERTIFIED MUNICIPAL CLERK DESIGNATION

- ♦ Paula Geletei, CMC, Atlantic City (October 2016)
- ♦ Joseph Kostecki, CMC, Borough of South Toms River (December 2016)
- ♦ Sherry A. Mason, CMC, Borough of Beach Haven (December 2016)

The Certified Municipal Clerk program is designed to enhance the job performance of the Clerk in small and large municipalities. To earn the CMC designation, a Municipal Clerk must attend extensive education programs. The CMC designation also requires pertinent experience in a municipality. The CMC program prepares the applicants to meet the challenges of the complex role of the Municipal Clerk by providing them with quality education in partnership with institutions of higher learning, as well as State / Provincial / National Associations. The CMC program has been assisting clerks to excel since 1970.

RETIREMENTS

Atlantic County

Janice Callahan, of Ventnor City, retired after nearly 40 years of service. Janice was the City Clerk since 2011 and the Deputy since 1977.

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PEOPLE PAGE



RETIREMENTS *(contd.)*

Pictured on the left (L-R): Ventnor City Commissioner Lance Landgraf, Mayor Beth Holtzman, Retiring Clerk Janice Callahan and Commissioner Tim Kriebel. *(Photo courtesy of The Current of Ventnor, Margate and Longport.)*

Bergen County

Debra Ciliento, Lodi Borough Clerk, retires after 37 years. Debra originally began working in Purchasing and Accounts Payable, then moved onto the Deputy Clerk position and for the past 20 years served as the Borough Clerk.



Joanne M. Kwasniewski (Pictured on the left), Fair Lawn Municipal Clerk, is retiring in April having been a Municipal Clerk since 1984. She has worked for local government for 40 years. She worked six years part time doing Planning Board, Zoning Board, and Mayor and Council meetings before her youngest went to school.

Mercer County

Linda McDermott (Pictured to the right), of Princeton, retires after 28 years of service. Linda first joined Princeton in 1988 as the Deputy Clerk.

Union County

Doreen Cali, of Roselle Park, will be retiring on February 1, 2017. Doreen was originally appointed in 2006. She has been the President of the Union County Municipal Clerks Association since 2007.



CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES TO ALL OF THE RECENT RETIREES!

TRANSITIONS

Atlantic County

Lisa H. Hand, former Deputy Clerk of Ventnor City, was appointed as City Clerk of Ventnor City.

Mercer County

Kathleen Brzezynski, Deputy Clerk in Princeton, has been appointed as Clerk in Princeton, effective January 2017.

Somerset County

Eric Colvin is the Borough Clerk in Raritan Borough.

Sussex County

Debra Millikin has been appointed Township Administrator and Acting Township Clerk for Wantage. Debra previously served as the Deputy Town Manager for Newton, before assuming her new position in Wantage.

Union County

Donna Cali is Acting Borough Clerk in Roselle Park.



Debra Millikin

BEST WISHES IN YOUR NEW POSITIONS!

PEOPLE PAGE



Congratulations on a Job Well Done!

Middle Township's Deputy Clerk Krystal Arana was named as the October Employee of the Month at the October 17th Township Committee meeting.

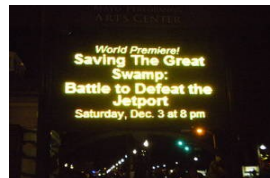
The Middle Township Employee of the Month program was initiated by the Township Committee to honor employees who exemplify the township's commitment to better delivery of services and going the extra mile for residents. The program culminates with the Darius Graham Employee of the Year honor that is named after one of the township's most beloved employees in its history.

Pictured to the left (L-R): Middle Township Mayor Mike Clark, Deputy Clerk Krystal Arana, Committeeman Tim Donohue and Committeeman Jeff DeVico (Photo courtesy of *The Gazette of Middle Town-*

While visiting her California grandchildren this fall, Linda Wanat Municipal Clerk, (Montclair Twp) took them to visit the Municipal Building in Calabasas (busman's holiday!). There we were graciously welcomed by the City Clerk, Marciela Hernandez, who gave us a tour of their beautiful facility. (Photo (F-R) Linda Wanat (Montclair Twp) and Marciela Hernandez (Calabasas))



Alice Lundt, the longtime Chatham Township clerk, was in attendance for the premiere of the documentary, "Saving the Great Swamp: Battle to Stop the Jetport," along with her daughter, Christy Lambertus, who came in from Fort Lauderdale, Fla., to see it. "I remember everything about it," Lundt, now 100 years old, said. "We had a township committee meeting the night this came out. You talk about six people (committee members) who were all devastated by the news. Tobin always seemed to get his way."



CONDOLENCES

The Municipal Clerks' Association of New Jersey offers the following condolences:

Former Township Clerk of West Milford, George F. Eckhardt, Jr. passed away on Saturday, August 20, 2016 at the age of 98. Born in Passaic, he was a permanent resident of West Milford since 1944, moving here from Passaic. Mr. Eckhardt served as sanitary inspector, Township Clerk of West Milford for 25 Years, from 1954 and retiring in 1979. He served as Court Clerk, Clerk in the Tax Office, Secretary of Civil Defense, Acting Registrar, member of the Board of Health during his tenure with the Township of West Milford, former treasurer of the Greenwood Forest Volunteer Fire Company, Secretary of the West Milford Township Volunteer Firemen's Ambulance Corps, is a charter member of the Passaic County Municipal Clerk's Association of New Jersey, is a member of the New Century Society of Chilton Hospital and Channel Thirteen Legacy Society and the West Milford Golden Age Circle. He was also the beloved husband of 63 years of the late Evelyn (Hall) Eckhardt.

Demarest Borough Clerk, Susan Crosman's husband, John passed on Tuesday, December 13, 2016. John Crosman, a resident of Dumont, was a long time public servant, having retired in 2012 as Superintendent of Public Works in Demarest.

THE QUILL

A Day in the Life of a Municipal Clerk Something old, something new *(continued)*

This column is meant as lighthearted humor for those who work as municipal clerks. Our hope is that it will strengthen our relationships by fostering an emotional connection to similar situations we have all experienced.. Laughter provides a strong defense against stress, disagreements and disappointments. It helps us to see situations in a more realistic, less threatening light.

In recent years, I've been assigned to the municipal safety committee. I am in charge of writing the "JSOs" or Job Site Observations for my office, noting any safety hazards. I'm not sure the safety coordinator believed me when I had to hand in a JSO about hand sanitizer. It read, "An employee of the Township Clerk's office was using hand sanitizer near another employee. Since the sanitizer spout was slightly blocked with old, hardened sanitizer, when the employee pressed down on the spout, the sanitizer shot out sideways, landing directly into another employee's eye. The other employee rinsed her eye, but was not severely injured. Since hand sanitizer contains alcohol, it was very painful. Employees should take care to clean their sanitizer spouts or point the spouts far away from other employees to prevent more serious injuries in the future." Who knew that hand sanitizer could be so dangerous?

I also learn things from my fellow clerks. Things that help me on the job. That's why networking is so important in this profession. To give you an example, when my council members started to debate whether or not they should allow chickens on residential properties, I was able to point out how another town made international news over their chicken debate, especially the issue of conjugal visits from roosters.

I recently received an email from a woman who sent me pictures of her dead dog, to give me proof the dog was dead. I wasn't sure what the attached photos would look like, so I opted not to look at them. I took her word for it and removed the dog from the dog license database. I didn't wish to see this "something new."

A resident named Anita Punch appeared at our counter. Her name was fitting because I thought she sure did need a punch after she screamed at me for 30 minutes because the electric company's poles in front of her house didn't have solar panels. Clearly, she did not get the memo (or her last bill) showing that the electricity was handled by the electric company and not the Township Clerk. The berating ended when the mouse that had been running around in my office flattened itself, scooted under the office door, and ran past her and the line of people that had formed behind her. Anita was afraid of mice and promptly left the building. One person ran after it trying to catch it. He was not successful. What did I learn here, you might ask? I learned that as a Municipal Clerk, you should always expect the unexpected.

Just when you think you've heard and seen it all, you realize that no matter how old you are or how long you've been a Municipal Clerk, there is always something new that happens.

OPRA & Security Cameras

By Michael W. Herbert, Esq. Herbert, Van Ness, Caycil & Goodell

The Clerks Association wishes a quick recovery to our good friend and Counsel, Steven Goodell, Esq. Thank you to Michael Herbert, Esq. for stepping in and contributing in his temporary absence.

In a recent decision by the New Jersey Supreme Court, a ruling was made that footage from security camera mounted in the public area is not subject to release to citizens pursuant to N.J.S.A. §47:1A-1 to 47:1A-13 also known as the Open Public Records Act ("OPRA").

The Supreme Court reversed the Appellate Division decision that the Township of Bloomfield had improperly denied access to a well-known OPRA activist/resident who sought video from a camera mounted outside the Municipal Building pursuant to OPRA. The Court in a 4 to 2 decision decided that this type of footage could still be requested under the State's Common Law Right of Access which is an older law that requires a tougher balancing test for the potential harm of releasing records against the public's right-to-know.

The litigation began when Ms. Gilleran made the request pursuant to her own citizen investigation of possible misuse of municipal parking spaces by local officials. Her request was denied under OPRA's security exclusions. The municipality asserted that releasing the footage would create a security risk by disclosing the surveillance camera's capabilities and because Township Hall was next to a police station jeopardizing the safety of crime victims, witnesses, and confidential informants coming and going from the building. Ms. Gilleran argued to the Court that the camera was mounted in plain sight and captured a video of a public area and that the public should have a right to review its footage.

The Law Division Judge ordered the release of the footage under OPRA and the Appellate Division upheld the ruling. The Supreme Court, through Judge Jaynee LaVecchia ruled that the release of the video would undermine the security purposes of the camera. She continued that once OPRA is interpreted to require unfettered access to the work product of any camera as part of a governmental facilities' security system, the footage from such cameras, whether they be located in police stations, courthouses or correctional institutions, would be subject to release on demand.

The Justice went on to state that the case was better analyzed under the Common Law Right-of-Access where the asserted need for access can be weighed against the need for governmental confidentiality.

Justice Stuart Rabner dissented in the case and stated that common law was not a substitute for OPRA because it shifts the burden to the requester to demonstrate the need for access rather than relying on the government to prove that a record is exempt.

Women, It's Your Turn to Lead *(continued from pg. 1)*

The news for women serving in state legislatures is decidedly less optimistic. After all new legislators take their seats in January 2017, 24.8% of state legislators around the country will be women, a proportion that has not changed significantly over the past decade. New Jersey will rank 13th in the nation for the proportion of women serving in the state legislature. At the local level, at the end of 2016, women were 262 of the 1,393 mayors of US cities with populations of 30,000 and above (18.8%). In New Jersey, no women served as county executives; women comprised 26.4% (36 of 137) of county freeholders, 36.9% (24 of 65) of county constitutional officers, and 14.5% (82 of 565) of mayors.

So why is change so slow? Among other things, the number of women candidates is not increasing at a pace necessary to see gains. The flat line in women's representation is consistent with the flat line in women's candidacies, serving as yet another reminder of the need to encourage, support, and mobilize women to run.

Electing more women could be in itself a way to attack tough problems. That's why we seek talented women to take up the challenge. Often we hear that women are waiting for an invitation to run for office. Consider yourself invited, and consider a candidacy today. Your perspective could influence the direction of important policies for years to come. It's the best gift you could give to yourself, your family, and your community. **Consider this your invitation to take the next step by attending Ready to Run®!**

Ready to Run®, CAWP's annual bipartisan two-day campaign training program, demystifies the process of running for elected office and introduces participants to elected and appointed leaders, campaign consultants, and party officials. This year's Ready to Run® is scheduled for March 10-11 at the Douglass Student Center, Rutgers-New Brunswick. Ready to Run® features two tracks: "I'm Ready to Run, Now What?" and "I'm Not Ready to Run Yet, But..." The first track, for women who are ready to run for office within the next year or so, features interactive workshops that cover the fundamentals of launching an effective campaign and navigating the political parties as a potential candidate. The second track covers topics such as positioning yourself for future office, getting appointed to boards or commissions, getting involved in the political parties, and turning advocacy experience into political experience. Participants in both tracks will participate in plenary sessions on communications and media, internet strategies, and fundraising.

In addition, Ready to Run® features a Diversity Initiative designed to attract more women of color into the political process and encourage them to seek public office. CAWP has partnered with steering committees to host three separate pre-conference programs: *Elección Latina*; *Rising Stars: Educating Asian American Women for Politics*; and *Run Sister Run: Women of the African Diaspora Changing the Political Landscape*. These programs will take place immediately prior to the main Ready to Run® program on Friday, March 10th.

Spread the word to colleagues and friends! For early birds who register by February 3, the cost is \$150; after February 3, the rate is \$195. Limited scholarships are also available. For more details or to register, visit www.cawp.rutgers.edu/ReadytoRun. Questions? Contact Jean Sinzdak at sinzdak@eagleton.rutgers.edu.

Jean Sinzdak is CAWP's associate director and leads the New Jersey Ready to Run® program and the Ready to Run® National Network.

BEST WISHES FROM THE EDITOR

As it often does in our professions, last-minute updates alter our tentative plans. It provides us with the opportunity to run around like crazy people in front of our fellow colleagues and governing body members, and produce a great event for our community, while attempting our best impersonation of a duck (smooth on the surface). And, by some stroke of luck (~~carefully scheduled policy actions that quickly get thrown out the window~~), as you all hopefully experience (for the most part), everything coalesces and is a beautiful sight to see.

During this holiday season, as your communities come together to have fun, spread holiday cheer, and make important policy decisions, the real holiday spirit is evident in the warmth we all should feel from embracing the fact that we have the ability to help improve the overall health of the same people who stand singing next to you.

Thank you for allowing me to be part of that ball of chaos. You all know that Tip O'Neil quote. And it needs to be altered just a bit. Politics needs to be local. Because if it were; I believe we would be in a MUCH better place as a society. Merry Christmas, and Happy Holidays everyone.

Joseph Kostecki, Editor

IIMC Update

By Vincent Buttiglieri, RMC/MMC, IIMC President

The legendary football coach Vince Lombardi once said: "Individual commitment to a group effort – that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work."

That certainly was the case on November 11-12, 2016, when the 26 members of your IIMC Board of Directors gathered together for our annual Mid-Year Meeting in beautiful and historic Alexandria, Virginia. Just across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C was certainly a fitting location given that Election Day was held just a few days earlier and the voters elected the 45th President in our great country.



This two-day collaboration was both fruitful and invigorating. On Friday, November 11th, the entire Board and staff present participated in a Board Development session. The morning began with IIMC's Director of Professional Development, Dr. Jane Long, facilitating a discussion on IIMC's certification programs. This pro-active discussion was both a history lesson and a lesson in visioning for the future. Each person in that session walked away excited about the future of clerk education and IIMC's role in providing innovative educational opportunities for our membership. Our afternoon session was facilitated by Dr. Long and James Banks, Esq., City Attorney for the City of Alexandria. The session focused on various communication styles and how being able to identify those various styles will enable us to be stronger leaders. This session also proved to be an eye-opening experience and left all attendees wanting more. After discussion with the attendees and Dr. Long and Mr. Banks, I'm pleased that we will continue both of these discussions at our Board Development session at our Annual meeting in Montreal.

After conclusion of our Board Development, IIMC Foundation President Colleen Nicol presented the Foundation Report. President Nicol announced that the Foundation has given IIMC close to \$1 million dollars since its formation that has been used for various education programs and scholarships. President Nicol announced that the Foundation has received two additional restricted endowments. She encouraged all Board members to promote the many vehicles in which our members can contribute to the Foundation.

Saturday, November 12th, allowed no rest for the weary as our meeting began bright and early. As your President, I'm extremely proud of each member of the Board and the IIMC staff. Let me just say that each person came to this meeting prepared to discuss the issues at hand and with the common goal of making IIMC even better. Here are some highlights from the 2016 Mid-Year Board Meeting:

1. Board approved a balanced budget for 2017
2. The Education Resource Group will cease to exist beginning January 1, 2017
3. Board approved the renewal of the contracts for IIMC's Director of Professional Development Dr. Jane Long, Region XI Consultant Tom van Der Hoven, Event Management Consultant Sharon Ozimek and Financial Manager Connie Parker.
4. Board awarded the 2021 IIMC Conference to Grand Rapids, Michigan
5. Board adopted revision to existing policies concerning Education, Budget and Planning, Membership and Public Relations
6. IIMC membership is at an all-time high - 14,450 members
7. Board approved the Diversity/Inclusion Task Force

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THE QUILL

On Sunday, November 13, 2016, the IIMC Foundation held their meeting. This amazing group of volunteers discussed their various fundraising activities. An in-depth report was given by all the sub-committees, including Revenue Growth, Nominating, Special Events, Marketing, Donor Recognition and Business Partners Council. Throughout this meeting, you could just feel the passion that each member of the Foundation has for IIMC and our membership. Thank you all for the tireless work you put forth for the benefit of our 14,450 members. You are all remarkable.

While we would have normally all went our separate ways after the meetings concluded on Sunday thanks to the efforts of one of our own, we were happy to stay for another day. A few months back, Region II Director Drew Pavlica (Garfield, NJ) wanted to do something to make our Mid-Year Meeting a memorable event for all those in attendance. Drew had been to Washington D.C. a number of times and thought it would be fitting to have IIMC place a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. He contacted Congressman William Pascrell, Jr. (NJ-9th District) to see how he could make this a reality. Due to the efforts of Drew, approval was granted. On Monday, November 14, 2016, IIMC had the tremendous honor of placing a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery. I was extremely pleased that so many were able to extend their stay and share this historic moment in IIMC's history. I will take the liberty of speaking for my fellow Executive Committee Members, Mary Kayser, Stephanie Kelly and Monica Martinez Simmons as well as all those present by saying that Drew certainly made this one of the highlights of our lives. Thank you so much Drew!

My term as the 59th President of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks will come to an end at the 71st Annual IIMC Conference which is being held in beautiful Montreal, Canada from May 21-24, 2017. For those who have never been to Montreal, it really is one of the most exciting and vibrant cities you will ever have an opportunity to go. You don't have to take that just from me. Based on the early registration numbers, this conference promises to be one of the best attended in recent years. Here are just a few highlights:

- The first two hotels have been sold out. Currently, rooms are being booked at the LE CENTRE SHERATON HOTEL – MONTREAL, 1201 Boulevard Rene-Levesque Ouest, Montreal, (Quebec) H3B 2L7. The room cost is \$199 CAN plus applicable taxes. Reservations must be made no later than April 5 to receive the IIMC conference room rate.
- There will be 6 Pre-Conference Academy Sessions, 2 General Sessions and 42 Concurrent Education Sessions offered.
- There will be 2 Athenian Dialogues offered prior to the start of the conference:
- **The Sound of Wings: The Life of Amelia Earhart by Mary S. Lovell** facilitated by Mary Lynne Stratta, MMC, City Secretary, Bryan, TX
- **An American Original: Walt Disney by Bob Thomas** facilitated by Chuck Tokar, MMC, Mayor/Retired Village Clerk, Chicago Ridge, IL.
- The conference will open on Sunday evening, May 21st with a Montreal Mingle (Opening Reception). This will be similar to MCANJ's Social Adjustment hour.
- The All Conference Event theme will be "The Streets of Montreal." Attendees are encouraged to wear Black and White clothes or costumes. The evening will feature an array of sumptuous cuisines, wandering artisans and other items indicative of the Montreal lifestyle.
- The conference concludes with the Annual Banquet which is held on Wednesday, May 24th. This even is a fitting climax to say goodbye to friends and reflect on your conference experience.

As 2016 comes to an end and we begin anew, I want to extend my sincere wishes to each of you that 2017 will bring you much health and happiness!



THE QUILL



International Institute of Municipal Clerks President Vinny Buttiglieri of Ocean Township, New Jersey; and IIMC Region II Director Drew Pavlica of Garfield, New Jersey.

It is from the November 14th Wreath Laying Ceremony by the Executive Committee of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (President Vincent Buttiglieri of Ocean Township, New Jersey; Immediate Past President Monica Simmons of Seattle, Washington; President-Elect Mary Kayser of Fort Worth, Texas; and Vice-President Stephanie Kelly of Charlotte, North Carolina) at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery, that Drew Pavlica helped arrange.

Take a look at the IIMC News Digest and especially the President's Message, most notably, page 4: <http://www.iimc.com/DocumentCenter/View/2412>



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MCANJ 2017 ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE “EVERYTHING COUNTS” PROPOSED SESSIONS/MEETING/EVENTS

(Subject to Change)

MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2017

Conference Sign In 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2017 (with Exhibitors)

Conference Sig In	8:00 am (Opens)
Breakfast	8:00 am – 10:00 am (120 minutes)
Session (Elections)	9:00 am – 10:40 am (100 minutes/2.0 CEU Elections)
Break (visit exhibitors)	10:40 am – 11:00 am (20 minutes – visit exhibitors)
Session (Ethics)	11:00 am – 12:00 pm (60 minutes/1.0 CEU Ethics)
Lunch (visit exhibitors)	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm (60 minutes)
Welcome Remarks (Mayor Kramer)	1:00 pm – 1:20 pm (20 minutes)
Session (Prof. Dvlp. – Keynote)	1:20 pm – 3:00 pm (100 minutes/2.0 CEU Prof. Dvlp)
Break (visit exhibitors)	3:00 pm – 3:20 pm (20 minutes – visit exhibitors)
Session (Product & Services Demo's)	3:20 pm – 5:00 pm (100 minutes/2.0 CEU IT)
President & Exhibitor Reception	5:00 pm – 7:00 pm <i>(Light pickings and refreshments will be served Mingle with exhibitors. Exhibitor prizes to be awarded. Entertainment.)</i>

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2017 (with Silent Auction & clothing sales)

Registration	8:00 am
Breakfast	8:00 am – 8:45 am (45 minutes)
Opening Remarks	8:45 am – 9:00 am (15 minutes)
Session (Licensing)	9:00 am – 10:40 am (100 minutes/2.0 CEU Licensing)
Break (visit auction/sales)	10:40 am – 11:00 am (20 minutes)
Annual Meeting (Finance)	11:00 am – 12:30 pm (includes .50 CEU Finance)
Lunch (visit auction/sales)	12:30 pm – 1:30 pm (1.0 hour)
Session (Records)	1:30 pm – 2:45 pm (75 minutes/1.5 Rec. CEU)
Break (visit auction/closes at 3:05 pm)	2:45 pm – 3:05 pm (20 minutes)
Session (Records/IT)	3:05 pm – 4:45 pm (100 minutes/1.5 Rec. & .5 IT CEU)
Pick Up Silent Auction Items	4:45 pm
MCANJ Cocktails	6:30 pm – 7:00 pm
MCANJ Dinner/Program	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Dinner / Program (band, reveal, 50/50)

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2017

Check Out of Hotels	
Breakfast	8:00 am - 9:15 am (75 minutes)
Session (Registrar's) [A]	9:00 am – 11:00 am (120 minutes/2.0 Credit Hours)
Session (Ethics) [B]	9:20 am – 11:00 am (100 minutes/2.0 CEU Ethics)
Break	11:00 am – 11:15 am (15 minutes)
Session (Finance)	11:15 am – 12:30 pm (75 minutes/1.5 CEU Finance)

2017 Conference Registration Winners Drawn at 12:30 pm – must be present to win

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MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY as of December 14, 2016

County	Total # of Municipalities	Total # of Municipalities Paid	% Paid
Atlantic	23	19	83%
Bergen	70	48	69%
Burlington	40	35	88%
Camden	37	20	54%
Cape May	16	14	88%
Cumberland	14	8	57%
Essex	22	15	68%
Gloucester	24	21	88%
Hudson	12	6	50%
Hunterdon	26	21	81%
Mercer	13	10	77%
Middlesex	25	22	88%
Monmouth	53	36	68%
Morris	39	32	82%
Ocean	33	25	76%
Passaic	16	11	69%
Salem	15	10	67%
Somerset	21	17	81%
Sussex	24	16	67%
Union	21	16	76%
Warren	22	16	73%

MEMBERSHIP MESSAGE

Any person holding an active membership with MCANJ, whose address or jurisdiction changes during the membership year, may carry the membership with him/her to the end of the membership year upon written notice to the MCANJ Treasurer. The Treasurer will update the information in the membership database to reflect the change in address, municipality or county; however, the membership type will remain the same until the end of that membership year.



MCANJ, INC. MEMBERSHIP

As of 12/14/2016

Full — Municipal Clerk	413
Full—Acting Municipal Clerk	13
Full — Clerk of Freeholder Board	1
Full—County Clerk	1
Associate —Assistant Municipal Clerk	24
Associate—Deputy Municipal Clerk	172
Associate—Deputy County Clerk	4
Honorary Membership (Retired)	49
Affiliate—All Other Members	<u>24</u>
Total:	701

Respectfully Submitted,
Diane M. Pflugfelder
MCANJ Treasurer

**MUNICIPAL CLERKS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY, INC.
EXECUTIVE BOARD
2016-2017**



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Denise Szabo, Dina Zawadski, Eileen Gore, Diane Pflugfelder, Keith Kazmark, and Kevin Galland

DEADLINES FOR NEWSLETTER ITEMS

The deadline for People Page submissions for the April 2017 issue is March 7, 2017. Please send People Page news to:

Pam Borek, Municipal Clerk, Hillsborough Twp.,

379 South Branch Road. Hillsborough, NJ 08844

or via Email at pborek@hillsborough-nj.org

The General News Articles deadline is March 13, 2017, and may be sent to:

Joseph Kostecki, Borough of South Toms River, 19 Double Trouble Rd, South Toms River, NJ 08757-5105 or via email to:

joseph.kostecki@boroughofsouthtomsriver.com

Questions or comments regarding this or any issue of the *Quill* may be directed to the Editor, Joseph Kostecki, by calling (732) 349-0403 or using the contact information shown above.

Articles for submission should be prepared in Microsoft Word, using Calibri 10-point font.

the *Quill*

Editor - Joseph Kostecki

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