#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE KEVIN GALLAND



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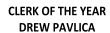
# MCANJ shore to eatch the educational coave

Municipal Clerks' Association of New Jersey Inc.

#### **EDUCATION CONFERENCE RE-CAP IN PICTURES**

Caesar's Atlantic City Hotel & Casino, 2100 Pacific Ave, Atlantic City, NJ

May 1st -4th





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#### **PEOPLE'S PAGE**



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A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A MUNICIPAL CLERK BY: MICHELE SEIGFRIED



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Immediate Past President: Dina Zawadski, Deptford Township E-mail: immediatepastpresident@njclerks.org

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Legal Counsel: Thomas H. Prol

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1993: John J. Galvin	2004: Joel Popkin	2014-15: John Mitch
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1995: Christina N. Wilder	2006: Elaine B. Kennedy	2017: Denise Szabo

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Debra Sopronyi, Hightstown Borough

Debra Sopronyi, Hightstown Borough

Mercer:

Mercer:

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# **Committee Chairs 2018/2019**

Constitution and By-Laws: Eugene Padalino, Township of Pennsauken

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Education & Professional Development: Jennica Bileci, Mantua Township

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Elections: Kelly Halewicz, Ringwood Township

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Fundraising, Raffles & Merchandise: Deborah Sopronyi, Borough of Hightstown

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Manual Review Committee: Deanna Bennett, Borough of Haddonfield

Email: dbennett@haddonfield-nj.gov

Past President's Council Andrew Pavlica, City of Garfield

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Resolutions: Pam Borek, Hillsborough Township

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Membership Vincent Buttiglieri, Ocean Township

Email: vbuttiglieri@oceantwp.org







Photo of MCANJ Current and Past Presidents taken at the 2018 MCANJ Education Conference at Caesar's Hotel in Atlantic City, New Jersey on Thursday, May 3, 2018:



Joan Moreland of Haddon Heights (2009); John Mitch of Woodbridge (2014-2015); Christina Wilder of Hamilton (1995); Allan Susen of Haledon (2003); Joel Popkin of Neptune (2004); Lewis Thompson of Millville (1987); Barbara Hawk of Laurel Springs (2007); Dina Zawadski of Deptford (2017-2018); Drew Pavlica of Garfield (2012); Nancy Saffos of Cherry Hill (2013); Denise Szabo of Bernards Township (2016-2017); Heather Mailander of Ridgewood (2008); Keith Kazmark of Elmwood Park (2015-2016); Vinny Buttiglieri of Ocean Township (2010); and Elaine Kennedy of North Hanover (2006).



#### Reminder-Don't forget to renew your 2018/2019 MCANJ Membership at njclerks.org





Photograph of IIMC Past Region II Director Drew Pavlica of Garfield, New Jersey after he was named 2017-2018 New Jersey Municipal Clerk of the Year; Municipal Clerks' Association of New Jersey President Dina Zawadski of Deptford, New Jersey; IIMC President Mary Kayser of Fort Worth, Texas; and IIMC Immediate Past President Vinny Buttiglieri of Ocean Township, New Jersey at the 2018 MCANJ Education Conference held at Caesar's Hotel in Atlantic City, New Jersey. (Photo Taken on Thursday, May 3, 2018).

### 2018 Clerk of the Year-Congratulations to Drew Pavlica

- The MCANJ's 2018 Clerk Of The Year is a person who has redefined the definition of commitment. Commitment to family, employer, career and of course to the Municipal Clerks' Association.
- Our awardee has served with distinction as a Municipal Clerk for some 30 years. Has held numerous Municipal Clerk leadership positions at the County, State and International levels.
- Previously awarded the prestigious L. Manuel Hirshblond Award for recognition of going above and beyond to serve the MCANJ.
- As MCANJ President, wrote a published editorial entitled "For a Responsible Application of OPRA" which appeared on the front page of the Opinion Section of one of the State's major newspapers the Bergen Record.
- Has been a member and chair of several MCANJ Committees over the years including chairing the vital Education Committee, which oversaw the New Jersey IIMC Institute Rutgers University.
- Has been also updating the written history of the MCANJ and takes many photographs to document that history at conferences, meetings, and other events.
- Spends countless hours per week as the daily Facebook page administrator, which was created by him and his spouse along with the late Wantage Municipal Clerk/Administrator Jim Doherty half a decade ago.
- Has compiled a two-volume Compendium of Ceremonial Resolutions and Proclamations, which has proven to be a useful tool
  to Municipal Clerks in New Jersey and beyond, and which is now posted on the MCANJ website as a resource for all MCANJ
  Members.
- Has attained the highest IIMC education certificate of Master Municipal Clerk and is a 1983 graduate of Montclair State University.
- Co-chaired the New Jersey Fundraising Sub-Committee of the New Jersey Committee that brought the IIMC Conference to NJ in 2013.
- Organized a successful Dinner Celebration of the 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the MCANJ at the Banquet of his Education Conference held in March 2012 at the Taj Mahal Hotel in Atlantic City.
- During a recent visit to Washington DC during Veterans Day weekend, arranged for Ocean Township NJ Clerk Vincent Buttiglieri, as the IIMC President, to lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery.
- Based on his vast knowledge and experiences, has been asked to speak across the state at Education Sessions, Conferences, and Meetings representing government and the Municipal Clerks profession.
- In spare time has been a leader in his community, having been President of the municipality's YMCA, President of the municipality's Rotary Club, a member of the municipality's Chamber of Commerce, Jaycees, Historical Society Advisory Board, Planning Board, Zoning Board, and Free Public Library Board of Trustees.
- Our recipient has never missed a single Garfield Mayor and Council meeting during his 30 years of service as the Garfield City Clerk, which documents his devotion and dedication to his employer, his career and our profession.

# Congratulations, Mr. Drew Pavlica, City Clerk of the great City of Garfield, our 2018 MCANJ Municipal Clerk of the Year!

# 2018 Clerk of the Year-Congratulations to Drew Pavlica







January 2012, President of the MCANJ



Visit to Washington DC during Veterans Day weekend, arranged for Ocean Township NJ Clerk Vincent Buttiglieri, as the IIMC President, to lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery.



(Left-Right) 2017-2018 MCANJ Municipal Clerk of the Year Drew Pavlica of Garfield and 2016-2017 MCANJ Municipal Clerk of the Year John Mitch of Woodbridge.

Photo taken at the 2018 MCANJ Education Conference at Caesar's Hotel in Atlantic City, New Jersey on Thursday, May 3, 2018.



# **GARFIELD CITY CLERK DREW PAVLICA ATTENDS 1,674 STRAIGHT**



Pictured (L-R): Deputy Mayor Joseph Delaney, Mayor Richard Rigoglioso, Councilwoman Erin Delaney, City Clerk Drew Pavlica holding the Joint Legislative Resolution from the New Jersey State Senate and General Assembly, Councilmember Frank Calandriello, City Attorney Christos Diktas, City Engineer Kevin Boswell and Coun-



# **Recognition of Newly Attained Certifications at Conference**



#### **Registered Municipal Clerks Spring 2017**

Mary Aveta, Jane Bash, William Bray, Agnieszka Brynczka, Patricia Chacker, Andrea Christensen, Karen Cosgrove, Najja Davis, Patricia Donahue, Nancy Erlston, Katherine Fenton-Newman, Mary Field, Rachel Fryc, Carolyn George, Vicki Gough, Susan Gouveia, Christine Hanneman, Linda Kent, Denise Kohan, Brenda Kuhn, Michael Kwasizur, Karen Mastro, Jasmine Mathis, Jodi McKinney, Marilyn Miller, Jessica Morelos, Mary Moss, Sandra Olivola, Lisa Passione, Mary Alice Picariello, Dana Rone, Debra Rubin, Nicole Sarna, Hilda Tavitian, Sarah Walker, Lorene Wright, Leslie Zeledon

#### **Registered Municipal Clerks Fall 2017**

Kelly Andrews, John Bennett, Amanda Bransky, Laura Burns, Breeanna Calabro, Donna Campagna, Linda Cervino, Cynthia Dziura, Everett Falt, Cara Fox, Sallie Graziano, Dawn Harriman, Paula Kosko, Kelly Lettera, Danielle Lewis, Dawn Liedtka, Carol Ann McMenamy, Madelene Medina, Caitlin Midgette, Debra Milliken, Wendy Patrovich, Melissa Pfeifer, Adelinny Plaza, Robert Shafer, Lisa Sharp, Stacy Sullivan-Gruca, Lindsay Walker, Donna Zilberfarb

#### **IIMC Certified Municipal Clerks**

Ann H. Bistritz, Borough of Harrington Park Ralph Blakeslee, III, Borough of Netcong Denise D. Cafone, Township of Fairfield Kelley Halewicz, Borough of Ringwood Kathryn Hutchinson, Township of Lakewood Jessie M. Joseph, Township of Ocean Maureen L. Muttie, Borough of Tinton Falls



#### **IIMC Master Municial Clerk**

Nikima S. Muller, Township of Mount Holly Kim-Marie White, Township of Eastampton

### President's Message-Kevin Galland

It seems like yesterday (November 20, 2013) that I stood before the membership at the then November Annual Meeting held at the Trump Taj Mahal Hotel seeking your endorsement for the position of Secretary of our Association. Little did I realize how time passes so quickly, that I am now serving as your President. Many changes have occurred since that date with the most ironical being that Trump is no longer a hotel, but rather the President of the United States.

Our 2018 Education Conference "Shore to Catch the Educational Wave" was a success. 275 attendees speaks volumes about our dedication to education and our profession. It was good to get back to Atlantic City, but we need to remember that the 2017 conference was held outside of AC because our contract with the Taj Mahal was voided, when the hotel went bankrupt. Had we not relocated to The Palace in Somerset, we would not have had a conference.

This conference was a success due to the efforts of our Education Conference Committee, our volunteer conveners and scanners, Doreen Cali and Andy, and especially our Executive Director, Joel Popkin, whose attention to detail is second to none. A special THANK YOU, to Drew Pavlica (Garfield) and his spouse Joan, for putting together the slide presentation that was shown during the Annual Dinner. We appreciate your contributions.

Congratulations to Drew Pavlica (Garfield) our 2018 Clerk of the Year and to all of the previous Clerks of the Year who were in attendance. A sound choice for this prestigious award and well deserved. It certainly was difficult to keep the recipient's identity disguised during the presentation by John Mitch (Woodbridge), last year's Clerk Of The Year, to the end of the introduction. Difficult, since it was easy to identify the recipient by all of Drew's accomplishments and dedication to our Association being well known. Having Drew's family, fellow Garfield employees and elected officials attend the presentation was important and appreciated.

The Executive Board thanks those attendees who provided comments on the conference while collecting their CEUs. Your comments are appreciated, both positive and negative, which helps us in planning future conferences. Yes, we have every intention to offer CEUs in Ethics.

Plans are being made for the 2019 Education Conference which will be held in Atlantic City at either Caesars or the new Hard Rock Hotel, dates to be announced. The Executive Board and our 2019 Co-Conference Chairs, Heather Mailander (Ridgewood) and John Mitch (Woodbridge) visited five sites, while in AC during our recent conference, to view/review their offerings. For various reasons we have selected to focus on the two previously mentioned locations, and our Executive Director is in negotiations with both of these hotels.

Our theme for the 2019 Conference is "Municipal Clerks - We Are Mission Control". Yes, we are borrowing from the plight of Apollo 13. If you recall, the astronauts (elected officials) were in crisis, and it was the job of Mission Control (clerks) to fix the problem and get the astronauts back to earth. Remember the exchange in the movie between the NASA Director and Gene Krantz, played by Ed Harris (Tenafly), when the Director stated, "This could be the worst disaster NASA's ever experienced", and Krantz responded, "With all due respect, sir, I believe this is gonna be our finest hour". Sounds like an everyday event in the life of a Clerk.

The IIMC 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Education Conference was held in Norfolk Virginia back in May and was a unique educational and social experience. Norfolk, a relatively quiet and extremely clean city, provided the conferees with a conference to remember. Once again the Parade of Flags was inspiring and the quality of the speakers and the materials presented were relevant facing the municipal clerk. The highlight of the conference for the New Jersey attendees was to witness Christina Wilder, MCANJ and IIMC Past President and Allan Susan, MCANJ Past President and Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Haledon, receive an award from the IIMC Foundation for their many years of service to the Foundation. Congratulations Chris and Allan.

Even if one was exhausted from attending the education sessions, the social events were many to perk you up. On Monday evening the All-Conference Event was held at the Peter G. Decker Half Moone Center with a nautical theme. There was live music, dancing and dining and attendees were dressed in concert with the theme. On Tuesday, Heidi Brunt (Middletown) and Douglass Barber (New Carrollton, MD) then current IIMC Region II Co-Directors hosted a dinner at the Town Point Club that was well attended and received. Finally, on Wednesday, the conference concluded with the Annual Banquet.

IIMC Annual Education Conferences are great events and you are encouraged to join the IIMC and attend future conferences to become more educated and to pursue the IIMC certifications of Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) and Master Municipal Clerk (MMC).

Save-the-Dates, IIMC Region II Annual Conference will be held January 15 – 18, 2019 in Wilmington Delaware. I am confident that our IIMC Region II Directors will be providing more information on this conference in the near future. The IIMC 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Education Conference will be held in Birmingham Alabama on May 19 – 22, 2019.

# President's Message-Kevin Galland (continued)

Where are we with OPRA? Not much better off than we were a year ago. But, with rose colored glasses on, there might be a ray of sun-shine, at least in communication, with Senator Weinberg.

As previously reported, representatives of the Association met twice last fiscal year with Senator Weinberg to discuss the Senator's proposed amendments to the current law. Neither of those two sessions was beneficial to either party. Senator Weinberg was rigid in her position that the Legislature did not need to be included under the law, and of course the Association was attempting to make compliance with the law less of an arduous task for the Clerk. After those two sessions and the Association's final response to the proposed amendments, communication between the Senator and the Association was less than frequent.

On April 30th, former MCANJ President Keith Kazmark (Elmwood Park) and I met with the Senator, at her request, in an attempt to reopen the lines of communication. For two hours, the items discussed were mostly redundant by both parties, but certainly not combative or argumentative.

The most recent update is that on June 14, 2018, The Senate State Government, Wagering, Tourism & Historic Preservation Committee advanced Senate Bill 106 (Open Public Meetings Act) and Senate Bill 107 (Open Public Records Act) that contained the Senator's amendments.

The majority of the Executive Board preferred not to take a position on the amendments. To that end, I wrote an email to the Senator's staff stating in my second paragraph that: "My personal opinion was not to take a position on the amendments as I believe our meeting of April 30<sup>th</sup> was the foundation for moving forward in a positive manner. To express a negative position would not be new news and would only re-establish/reinforce our prior adversarial relationship. It goes without saying that our Association, representing Municipal Clerks, would have extreme difficulty in supporting any OPRA legislation, but we are committed to working with the Senator in the future to express, at a minimum, our differences." Unfortunately, when the Senator read my email into the record, she neglected to read my last sentence where I clearly stated that '...we would have extreme difficulty in supporting any OPRA legislation...'. We will continue to meet with the Senator and will keep the membership advised of our progress.

Finally on this issue, I want to thank Richard Lustgarden, Esq. (former MCANJ Legal Counsel) for all of his help as intermediary.

Last month the Executive Board held its Transition Meeting. As the name implies, this is where the Board concludes the 2017/18 business of the Association and opens the business for the new fiscal year. At this meeting the Board welcomed in-coming Secretary Denise Cafone (Fairfield), and reappointed our Quill Editor – Michele Bobrowski (Alexandria); Desk Reference Editor – Deanna Bennett (Haddonfield); and Information Technology Website Administrator – Daina Dale (Harvey Cedars).

In addition, the Executive Board awarded three professional contracts. Joel Popkin was reappointed, without thinking twice, as the Association's Executive Director; Steven Weinstein of Weinstein & Weinstein (Teaneck) was reappointed as our Auditor; and Thomas Prol, Esq., of the law firm of Laddey, Clark & Ryan, LLP (Sparta) was appointed counsel. We all know Joel, most of us know Steve and Tom comes based on the recommendation of C.J. Griffin, Esq., (Pashman Stein Walder Hayden (Hackensack)). For those of you who do not know C.J., C.J. was a panelist at our OPRA session at the League of Municipalities this past fall; is extremely well versed in that subject; and has developed a reputation as one of the most active OPRA litigators. In fact C.J. just won a case against the Mayor and Council of Glen Rock (Bergen) regarding Facebook pages, government record or not. When we contacted C.J., actually inquiring if she had any interest in the position, she graciously declined (conflict of interest) and recommended Tom. Tom was interviewed by the Board and we are extremely impressed with his qualifications, experience and knowledge. Tom will be Master of Ceremonies at our pending Legal Defense Fund Conference (open to members of the LDF) in the later part of this year, and hopefully we can have C.J. join him. That combination will make for a great session.

A special thank you and words of appreciation, from the entire membership, for our Immediate Past President Denise Szabo (Bernards) who will be leaving the Executive Board this upcoming term. Ms. Szabo was instrumental in bringing technology to the Association by converting our financials to Quick Books and implementing on-line registration of our membership, LDF membership, conference registration; session evaluations and CEU retrieval. Maintenance of the Association's records and documents on Google Drive has become her specialty. Ms. Szabo has contributed significantly while serving on the Education Conference Committee, and other committees, prior to being on the Executive Board; on the Executive Board; and hopefully in the future.

In closing, I have had the pleasure of serving on the Executive Board under the Presidencies of John Mitch, Keith Kazmark, Denise Szabo and Dina Zawadski, I have learned from them all. The challenge is unbelievably large, but with the support of the Executive Board, 1st VP Diane Pflugfelder (Liberty); 2nd VP Eileen Gore (Hamilton); Treasurer Kim-Marie White (Eastampton); Secretary Denise Capone (Fairfield) and our most trusted Executive Director Joel Popkin, the future for the Association is bright. We cannot guarantee to make OPRA go away, but what we can guarantee is that we will work hard for the Association, put aside personal gain and perform our fiduciary responsibilities with the upmost integrity in a most professional manner.

# President's Message-Kevin Galland (continued)

An Association is only as good as what the members put into it. No one person can go it alone. It is not run be an exclusive group of people and don't wait on the side lines to express your interest to serve.

THANK YOU, and remember, what you get out of something is what you put into it. Same goes for our Association.-Kevin



2018-2019 MCANJ Officers being sworn in by Woodland Park Mayor Keith Kazmark on Thursday, May 3, 2018, (left – right), Immediate Past President Dina Zawadski of Deptford; Secretary Denise Cafone of Fairfield; Treasurer Kim-Marie White of Eastampton; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Eileen Gore of Hamilton; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Diane Pflugfelder of Liberty Township and President Kevin Galland of Woodland Park during the 2018 Education Conference held at Caesar's Hotel in Atlantic City, New Jersey.





President Kevin Galland and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice- President Diane Pflugfelder at the 2018 MCANJ Conference having some fun!





# President Zawadski 's State Address from Conference



May 3, 2018-Good morning everyone! I hope everyone is enjoying our fabulous conference. We have over 275 attendees, one of our largest ever. We also have over 33 vendors. Last evening we held a vendors reception. We thank all of our vendors for their support and outstanding information.

I hope everyone had an opportunity to join us at the President's Reception with Jimmy and the Parrot's Band. This was a great start to kick off our conference, and an opportunity to continue to network and meet our fellow professionals.

At this time I will commend our Education Conference Committee for doing an OUTSTANDING job coordinating this fantastic conference: Pat Frontino, Nancy Saffos, Rayna Harris, Tina Helder, Janet Pizzi, Lou Pastoriza, Gene Padalino and Deanna Bennett, Joel Popkin. I thank you all for dedication and volunteering to make this conference such a huge success. We were able to offer over 20 ½ CEU's. The most credits offered at any of our conferences.

Time sure has flown by. I was elected in 2012 as the incoming Secretary and now today I stand here very humbly as your President. There are many challenges being President of the organization.

My original intention getting involved in the association was to advance the cause of all the clerks. We are overlooked in municipal government at times. I'm from the southern part of our great state. I wanted to make a difference and my goal was to be a participant and be heard. I encourage all of you from whatever part of the state to get involved with the association. Find out what the board's agenda is, because this is your association. Try to find the time to become a member of the board or committee, and at the very least read the agendas and minutes of the meetings.

My goal was to not only become a part of the association but to have a voice. I wanted to express my concerns on issues that affect our role as Municipal Clerks. I can tell you we have met numerous times since I have been on this Board with: NJ State State Senate President Stephen Sweeney, NJ State Senator Loretta Weinberg, 5<sup>th</sup> District Legislative Reps, NJSLOM Reps Mike Cerra and Michael Darcy, Mayor's Associations, Clerks County Association, Press Association and many others and we thank them all for listening.

We've had a productive year. We held our 1<sup>st</sup> Legal Defense Fund Seminar on Dec 6, 2018 which was also well attended. Our terrific Solicitor, Michael Herbert was our Guest Speaker for this session. There was great feedback from this session and many clerks inquired about holding another one in the future.

At this time I'd ask all Clerks to please stand. Look around the room these are your colleagues these are your resources to help make your career profession a success. Take the time to meet these people and network. Story telling comparing notes are the beginning of conversation which leads to discussions and resolutions to situations that will arise in your position. Let's give yourselves a hand.

Today is not only my day but your day! This conference is for every one of us to learn network and meet new colleagues. Communication is your tool for success. As I stated when I began my term be a diamond, stand tall and sparkle! This is your day to shine

I thank all my colleagues who helped & supported me during my term as President and I thank all of you for this honor!

I couldn't have done it without your support. It certainly has been challenging and rewarding as well.

With Much Thanks-Dina

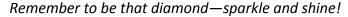


#### **FAREWELL SPEECH OF**

#### PRESIDENT DINA L. ZAWADSKI, RMC/CMC

As my term as President comes to an end I want to thank you for the honor of being President for MCANJ FY 2017-2018. It was with great pleasure and honor to have been the President for the State of New Jersey and one I'll cherish in my lifetime. Starting with my election five years ago and rising through the ranks it has been a valuable and productive experience. During my term as President I've met, encountered and gained new friendships along the way. I encourage you to be a part of the association, whether it is running for office, volunteering or making suggestions. The advancement of our profession is the purpose of the Association and we must remember we are all in this together.

At this time, I thank everyone who has contributed time, dedication, and support to the association whether on a committee, board or a volunteer. Our conference was successful because of you. It's people like you who make our association a success. You're a great asset to the Clerk's Association.







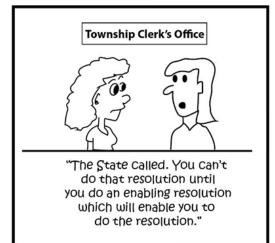
## **MCANJ Retirement Gift**

If you or someone from your county is planning on or has retired, please let your MCANJ County Representative know so that the Association can provide a retirement gift on behalf of the MCANJ. County Representatives should contact Kim-Marie White, Treasurer @ <u>Treasurer@NJClerks.org</u>. Please be sure to include the individual's name as it should appear on the engraved gift along with an address where it can be mailed. The request will take approximately 3 to 4 weeks to process, so please ensure that you provide as much advance notice as possible so that it can be presented at a retirement party or last town meeting, etc.

# A Day in the Life of a Municipal Clerk

# **Sometimes Words Aren't Enough**

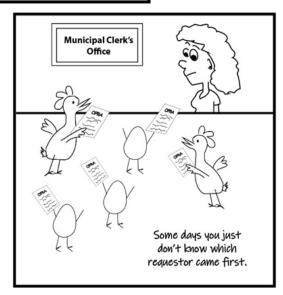
By Michele Lynn Seigfried











#### **PEOPLE PAGE**



The People Page is an opportunity for the members of our association to celebrate each other's achievements both professionally and personally, as well as to share our condolences during times of sorrow. Additionally, when we as clerks have an opportunity to participate in community events that are afforded to us as a result of our position, it is another example of something to share on the People's Page. Please feel free to share. Send your submissions to <a href="mailto:pborek@hillsborough-nj.org">pborek@hillsborough-nj.org</a>, along with a picture and caption to be included in future editions of the Quill.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS**

#### **Burlington County:**

Sherri L. Hannah, Beverly City Acting Municipal Clerk is getting married on July 7th. Congratulations and best wishes!

#### Cape May County:

Andrea Bruno, Middle Township Deputy Clerk was named Employee of the Month. She rose from the level of Keyboarding Clerk to Deputy Clerk in a short one and a half years, exceeding the challenging requirements and expectations for this award. Congratulations to Andrea! (pictured below)



#### **Essex County:**

Liz Fritzen, Maplewood Township Town Clerk celebrated her 30 years on the job at the May 15, 2018 Township Committee Meeting.

Congratulations to Liz!



#### **Sussex County:**

Wantage Township dedicated a baseball field on April 14, 2018 at Woodbourne Park in the memory of the late Jim Doherty, longtime Municipal Clerk and Ad-

ministrator. Jim passed away two years ago. He had served as the Municipal Clerk for more than 15 years. Throughout his career, he received many honors including being named Municipal Clerk of the Year by the Municipal Clerks Association of New Jersey in 2011. Jim was described as a "humble, unassuming, hardworking professional, thorough and efficient." The baseball field is a wonderful tribute!



#### Middlesex County:

Debra Rubin, Cranbury Township will be succeeding Kathleen R. Cunningham as the new Township Clerk. She has worked for Cranbury since 2015 as the Administrative Assistant to Police Chief Rickey A. Varga. Congratulations Debra and best of luck!

#### **SOCIAL MEDIA**



Like us on Facebook –Municipal Clerk's Association of NJ and visit our website at www.njclerks.org

2019 IIMC 73<sup>rd</sup>
Annual Conference
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#### PEOPLE PAGE-CONTINUED

#### RETIREMENTS

#### **Bergen County:**

Retiring Norwood Borough Clerk/Administrator Lorraine McMackin with flowers and (L-R) Bergen County Municipal Clerks' Association Vice President Sercan Zoklu, MCANJ Past-President Joanne Kwasniewski and BCMCA Immediate Past President Drew Pavlica after some presentations at Lorraine's Retirement Dinner at Dimora Restaurant in Norwood. (Picture on right)

Waldwick Borough Clerk Paula Jaegge retired on April Fools Day 2018. Paula was appointed Borough Clerk in 1986 and became the President of the Bergen County Municipal Clerk's Association in 2001.

Norwood Deputy Borough Clerk Carol Donovan retired on April 30, 2018. Carol became the Deputy Borough Clerk in 2001 and received her RMC in 2006.



Kathleen R. Cunningham, Cranbury Township Clerk celebrated her retirement on May 29, 2018 at the Cranbury Township Committee Meeting. Kathleen has been working in Cranbury since November 1997. During the Committee meeting a resolution was passed honoring Kathleen for her years of service. She plans to rest for six months and then do volunteer work. Best of luck in retirement Kathleen!

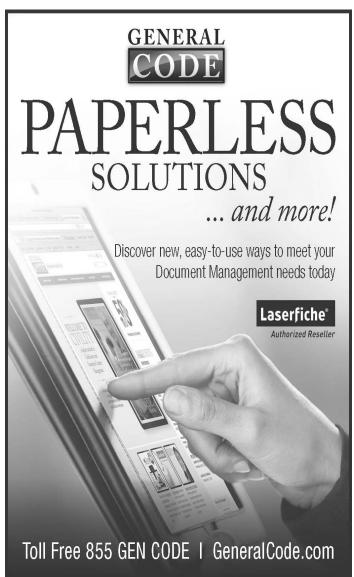
#### **Mercer County:**

Sharon Young, West Windsor Township Clerk retired June 25, 2018. It is with tears and joy that Sharon leaves her career of 19 years.

Congratulations and best of luck in retirement Sharon!







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#### PEOPLE PAGE-CONTINUED

#### IN OTHER NEWS...

#### **Sussex County:**

Toni Lu Martin, Andover Township Deputy Municipal Clerk ran for a Township Committee seat in Montague. An article in the New Jersey Herald states she is all but assured of victory in the November general election. This is Toni's first run for political office. Good luck Toni!



#### **Burlington County**



#### **Ocean County:**

Misty LaManna, Tuckerton Boro Deputy Clerk resigned effective June 15, 2018 to take a position with Ocean County Superior Court. We wish her the best of luck!

Municipal Clerk Michelle Hack from Riverton Borough broke her leg and is back to work part-time. Because the Primary Election day was a long day she brought in her cot and set it up in her office in the event she needed to rest and be ready for the long haul. That is one dedicated Clerk!

#### **CONDOLENCES**

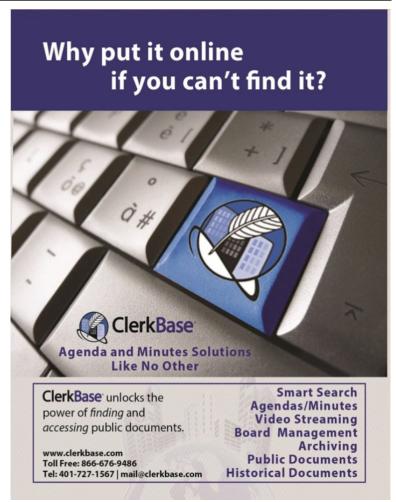
The Municipal Clerk's Association of New Jersey offers the following condolences:

#### **Camden County:**

Dorothy Burley, former Camden City Clerk passed away on April 16, 2018. In 1993 Dorothy was sworn in as Camden's first African American female City Clerk. She also served on the school board since 2013 and served as a commissioner for the Camden County Board of Elections, chair of Camden's



Housing Authority, chair of the city's Alcohol Beverage Control Board, commissioner for the Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority, a member of Camden Education Association, and president of a local foundation for girls. Dorothy was a lifelong resident of Camden. She will be remembered as a loving mother, dedicated teacher and school board member who had a commitment to civil service, community volunteerism and politics. Dorothy will be missed.



#### MCANJ ANNUAL CONFERENCE DINNER-May 3, 2018

#### **Remarks by President-Elect Kevin Galland**

Good evening ladies and gentlemen. First and foremost, thank you for attending your Annual Education Conference and being here this evening. Some 275 registered attendees speaks volumes about your desire for education and professionalism.

A few acknowledgements and congratulations are in order:

First, I need to acknowledge my spouse of many years, Joan, who is here joining us this evening, and for those who know me well, you will know that Joan has put up with a lot for a very long period of time.

For our conference committee for putting together another successful education conference.

Congratulations to Drew Pavlica, our 2018 Clerk of the Year, and to all of the previous Clerks of the Year who are with us this evening.

Congratulations to Christina Wilder, MCANJ and IIMC Past President and Allan Susan, MCANJ Past President and Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Haledon who are to receive an award from the IIMC Foundation at the IIMC conference in Norfolk Virginia for their many years of service to the Foundation.

A special thank you to Drew and his spouse Joan for preparing and presenting the historical presentation this evening.

#### **OUR FUTURE - TWO QUICK THOUGHTS**

First, a special thank you to Heather Mailander (Ridgewood) and John Mitch (Woodbridge) who will be co-chairing our 2019 Annual Education Conference hopefully here in Atlantic City. Collectively we visited several properties and look forward to visiting at least one more before a final location decision is made.

#### Second, OPRA

Going back four years ago, when I was making my pitch for your vote as secretary of our Association, I stated in my nomination speech:

We need to continue to interface with our State legislators to address current and pending legislation that directly affects our daily operations and lively-hood as Municipal Clerks. As you are aware, OPRA; the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act; and now the Common Sense Shared Services Pilot Program Act, have impacted our job functions significantly.

As our Executive Board has been very active on this front, that effort needs to be maintained.

That was a fine speech, but little did I know that Senator Weinberg was sitting not but twenty feet away from me and only learned afterward that the Senator shook her head negatively during my entire presentation. I guess I didn't get her vote.

Representatives from the Association met twice with Senator Weinberg this fiscal year regarding proposed OPRA amendments. Once in Senator Sweeney's conference room where the results were less than fruitful and again in her office with the same result. I did attend the meeting in her office and I don't think she remembered me from the previous event, so there was some good news.

I proposed four specific thoughts:

- 1. The legislative branch of NJ State Government needs to lead by example and make themselves subject to OPRA. There is no justification for exemption.
- 2. The municipal clerk can no longer be held as the singular custodian of records for the municipality. It should be mandated that a police department custodian be named in each municipality to handle all requests for police department records. Exemptions and redaction of police records is evolutionary based on recent technological advances and court decisions regarding police work body cams, dash cams, etc.

#### MCANJ ANNUAL CONFERENCE DINNER-May 3, 2018

#### Remarks by President-Elect Kevin Galland-Continued

- 3. Commercialism cannot be legitimized in any form. No government record should be used for profit.
- 4. OPRA needs to be rewritten, top to bottom. This law was written some twenty years ago to provide transparency to government which is now antiquated due to technological advances; has evolved into the perfect harassment tool for the disgruntled; and an added task for municipal clerks. As recommend by many professionals, it is now time to gather the stakeholders together and rewrite the law to address record retention and distribution in the age of non-paper media. Well intended amendments will not make the law any more efficient or effective and could possibly lead to further confusion and frustration

I can't say that the Senator agreed in totality with the four suggestions, but I can say that the Senator did listen and was willing to engage. The Senator was reminded that current OPRA law is based on two principles: one, we do not create documents; and second, we don't do research. The challenge today, as a result of recent court decisions, is that we are gravitating away from open records to open data. If that is the direction we are taking, the law needs to be revised to address that course of direction.

I do believe that we will be embarking on a new year whereby we can communicate and work with the Senator, perhaps not always agreeing, but working together for a better OPRA law.

A special thank you to our registration volunteers and to Doreen and Andy Cali for handling, once again, our merchandise table, already working on new inventory for next year's conference.

With Diane Pflugfelder, Eileen Gore, Kim-Marie White and now Denise Cafone, I look forward to working with hard-working dedicated individuals who will carry the torch for the upcoming year and for years to come, and will surely make our Association the best.

To Denise Szabo, our outgoing Immediate Past President, we thank you for all of your contributions to the Association and the Executive Board for all of your hard work to mechanize our internal data bases and maintenance of our historical documents and records.



And finally, our Executive Director, Mr. Joel Popkin, a Gentleman's Gentleman, an individual who simply has the proven ability to weather any storm and keep us headed in the correct direction. We thank you for your contributions and dedication this year, next year and in the years to come as our Association's Executive Director.

#### THANK YOU EVERYONE AND ENJOY THE EVENING-Kevin



## **MCANJ MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

#### IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MCANJ MEMBERSHIP

MCANJ is now accepting New and Renewal Membership Applications for the FY2019 through our online system.

Membership in the Municipal Clerk's Association of New Jersey offers an instant network to hundreds of the most professional local government officials in New Jersey and beyond.

MCANJ offers meaningful and affordable educational opportunities to its members through an Annual Education Conference, as well as webinars throughout the year. Registered Municipal Clerks can earn continuing education credits towards their certification renewal at these sessions.

MCANJ also keeps abreast of changes in Trenton and disseminates this information to its membership through its continued communications.

Municipal Clerk, the oldest of local government officials, offers camaraderie like no other; with members assisting when needed especially to non-seasoned Municipal Clerks or Municipal Clerks who may have faced a particular situation before. Municipal Clerks will undoubtedly develop new and long-lasting friendships when they join the MCANJ.

MCANJ offers the following classes of membership:

Regular Membership – Any person holding the office of Municipal Clerk, Acting Municipal Clerk, County Clerk, or Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of any municipality or county in New Jersey (\$100 Annual Fee)

Associate Membership – Any person holding the office of Deputy or Assistant Municipal Clerk, Deputy County Clerk, or Deputy Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders (\$75 Annual Fee)

Affiliate Member – Any person holding any governmental or education office of employment, or any person interested in promoting the objectives of the Association who is not eligible for Regular, Associate or Honorary membership. (\$75 Annual Fee)

Honorary Membership – Any Regular, Associate or Affiliate Member in good standing upon retirement. **[50 Annual Fee]** (Honorary Members must still renew their membership online each year even though there is no annual fee. This is, so we have your most up to date contact information).

The annual membership term is from July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>. Registration online is simple and quick. You do not need to send your PO for our signature, as the confirmation/invoice which is generated from the system has been approved by the Local Finance Board to be acceptable for use by counties and municipalities in the State.

# Visit njclerks.org to register now!



**ATTENTION CLERKS:** Where are you going on vacation this summer? Send pictures in of your amazing adventures to be featured in the October Edition of The Quill!! Pictures can be forwarded to Quill Editor Michele Bobrowski at clerk@alexandrianj.gov with a brief description of where you went and what town your work for. Have a Great Summer!

# 2018-2019 MUNICIPAL CLERKS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY, INC. EXECUTIVE BOARD



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#### **DEADLINES FOR NEWSLETTER ITEMS**

The deadline for People Page submissions for the October 2018 issue is September 4, 2018. 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 September 11 2018, and may be sent to:

Michele Bobrowski, Alexandria Township. 242 Little York-Mt. Pleasant Rd. Milford, NJ 08848 or via email to:

clerk@alexandrianj.gov

Questions or comments regarding this or any issue of *The Quill* may be directed to the

Editor, Michele Bobrowski,

by calling (908) 996-7071 ext. 210 or using the contact information shown above.

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