

MUNICIPAL CLERKS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY, INC.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by *Drew Pavlica, 2012 President*



Four score and five years ago, the Municipal Clerks' Association was founded --- I always wanted to begin remarks sometime in my life with words along those lines, and until now, I have resisted the urge to summon up my inner Abraham Lincoln.

However, in all seriousness, 2012 marks the 85th Anniversary of the MCANJ and our rich history of serving and enhancing the Municipal Clerk profession and government as a whole.

Every milestone anniversary deserves a celebration and during the March 2012 MCANJ Education Conference, an 85th Anniversary Celebration was held at the Taj Mahal Hotel in Atlantic City, which was attended by many MCANJ Past-Presidents and guests and by attendees to the Conference. There were old photographs, heartfelt and reflective remarks, a cake and other celebratory activities that made the Banquet memorable. It was a marvelous event!

The March MCANJ Education Conference was one of the better attended Conferences in years, with over 300 attendees, and was considered a great success. Much thanks goes to Conference Co-Chairs Sharon Brienza and Heather Mailander, and the Conference Committee which included Diane Pflugfelder, Vinny Buttiglieri, Doreen Cali, Ceil Covino, Jane Gillespie, Nancy Saffos, John Mitch, Keith Kazmark, Patty Hunt and Joanne Kwasniewski. I know the Conference would not have been nearly as successful without the capable and dedicated efforts of MCANJ Executive Director Joel Popkin, who constantly amazes me with how often he goes above and beyond the call of duty. And a special "thank you" goes out to our Retirees, Manny Hirsh-blond, Barbara Camp, Joe Favaro, Terry Tighe and Tina Fiorellino, for assisting us at the Registration Desk and with the many other on-site aspects of the Conference.

Evaluations from attendees to the Conference reflected how much they felt they benefitted professionally, how their municipalities benefitted from the information the attendees took back to their hometowns, and how they enjoyed the presentations by the speakers. Jeanne Robertson was a keynote speaker who received high marks, and as a former presenter at International Institute of Municipal Clerk Conferences, she gave us a taste of the superb quality of speakers who will be addressing us at the IIMC Conference to be held next May 2013, in New Jersey, at the very same Taj Mahal Hotel.

Preparations are already under way for this upcoming 2013 IIMC Education Conference, which will also serve as our annual MCANJ Conference, and CEUs for our RMC re-certification will be available in every discipline. What a unique and wonderful opportunity, next year, to earn CEUs and experience a world-class international education conference, right here, on our doorstep, in New Jersey! "AC in 2013" Co-Chairs Chris Wilder and Allan Susen are hard at work making sure that this Conference, with its "Lighthouse" logo and "Lighting the Way Through Education" theme, is an incredible and worthwhile event to remember, which will shine a positive light and showcase New Jersey to the attendees from across our great nation and from around the world.

Although, this May 2013 Conference will be a combined IIMC/MCANJ Education Conference, you will still need to be a member of the IIMC, in order to attend, and in order to receive a \$100 discount off the registration rate. For further information on how to achieve this \$100 discount, and how to become an IIMC Member, please contact IIMC Region II Director Vinny Buttiglieri in the Ocean Township, New Jersey, Municipal Clerk's Office at 732-531-5000 x 3321.

I know that you will not want to miss out on this once in a generation educational opportunity!

Speaking of IIMC Conferences, it was a tremendous honor for me to represent you and New Jersey at the 66th Annual IIMC Conference held May 20 to 24, 2012, in Portland, Oregon. What an emotional thrill and proud moment it was for me to carry the New Jersey State flag during the Parade of Flags at the Opening Ceremony!

Continued on Page 15

Jim Doherty, Editor

973.875.7192 e-mail: administrator@wantagetwp-nj.org

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J. Ford Flagg, 1954-1959 John R. Zellweger, 1960-1970

Joseph E. Bennett, 1971-1973 Harry C. Kates, 1974-1982

Janet L. Lynds, 1983-1993

Patricia Hullfish and Patricia Shuss, Co-Editors, 1994-1995

Patricia C. Shuss, 1996-2000 Nancy Hatten, 2001-2005

Contributing Editors:

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MUNICIPAL CLERKS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY, INC.
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E-mail: joelpopkin@optonline.net

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2009*Joan Moreland

1997*Elizabeth H. Kiss

2010*Vincent Buttiglieri

2011*Joanne Kwasniewski

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MCANJ 2013 Committees – SHARE YOUR TALENTS! Please Help Out.

Each year at this time, our association's "president to be" sends out this message inviting and encouraging you all to volunteer your time and talents to serve on one of MCANJ's many committees. This year is no exception. In fact, with all of the changes being made all around us, this year it's critical that we all join together and become involved in OUR association. **Only with your help will we be able to address the present and future needs of our profession and our organization.** I sincerely hope that your will join me and your fellow clerks, by deciding to get involved. Many of these committees do not require you to leave your office! **PLEASE**, complete the form below and return it back to me via regular mail, fax or e-mail, by September 1, 2012. If you have any questions, suggestions or comments, call me any time. This is about all of us and I am looking forward to working with all of you, in 2013, so I am thanking you, in advance, for your participation! **Think about this, as you decide if you have the time to volunteer, or if you even want to: If you're not part of the solution.....you're part of the problem!** Which will you be? I'm betting on solutions! And this year, more than ever, **we need you!** Sending happy summer wishes to you & your families!

Nancy L. Saffos, 2012 First Vice President

Constitution & Bylaws:

Reviews and recommends amendments to the Association's Constitution and Bylaws, to enact sound and fair rules of our organization.

Education:

Develops educational programs, reviews the certification and recertification programs and provides for seminars and conferences.

Elections:

Examines and evaluates the statutory requirements governing elections in municipalities.

Education Conference:

Plans and implements an informative and rewarding program.

Fund Raising:

Plans and implements fund raising efforts for the benefit of MCANJ and the Legal Defense Fund.

Information Technology/Web Page

Prepares, provides and reviews information shown on the MCANJ web page. Provides the Executive Board with other means of technology useful to the Municipal Clerk.

Legal Defense Fund:

Reviews applications of Fund members for legal assistance and promotes Fund membership.

Legislative Review:

Reviews and monitors all proposed legislation which may affect the Municipal Clerk or our municipalities.

Legislative Committee for Laws Pertaining to Municipal Clerks:

In conjunction with the Legislative Committee, monitor and review all proposed legislation that may directly affect the Municipal Clerks' profession.

Manual Review:

Provides the annual updates of the Study Guide and Desk Reference manuals in conjunction with the Education Committee and Rutgers University.

Membership / Peer Alliance For Learning:

Strives for 100% membership in MCANJ. Identifies new Municipal Clerks and teams them with participating experienced Municipal Clerks who share their knowledge and assistance when needed.

Professional Development and Mini Conferences:

Develops programs and seminars that address the managerial skills needed by today's Municipal Clerks.

Public Relations/MCANJ Booth:

Functions as the official Welcome Committee for our members and guests during conferences and other sponsored events. Organizes and manages the MCANJ booth at the Spring Education Conference and the League of Municipalities Conference.

Quill:

Provides a comprehensive professional publication for quarterly distribution to Association members.

Raffles:

Conducts such appropriate events, as determined by the Executive Board. Handles all aspects of the application process, advertising and follow up reporting to LGCCC for all games of chance run by the MCANJ.

Records:

Reviews pertinent decisions of the Government Records Council regarding the Municipal Clerk's responsibility in complying with the Open Public Records Act.

Resolutions:

Presents Resolutions recognizing retired and deceased Municipal Clerks at the annual meeting at the Annual League of Municipalities Conference.

Scholarship:

Advertises the availability of scholarships available, reviews applications and selects candidates to receive financial assistance.

Name _____ Title _____

Municipality/Address _____

Phone _____ FAX _____ E-mail Address: _____

I would like to serve on the following MCANJ Committee(s) during 2013:

1st Choice _____

2nd Choice _____

3rd Choice _____

Deadline: Please return by September 1, 2012 to: Nancy L. Saffos, MCANJ 1st VP
Township of Cherry Hill
820 Mercer Street, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002
OR Fax to: (856) 488-7892
OR E-mail to: NSaffos@chtownship.com



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE IS NEAR!

Municipal Clerks, Deputies and Assistants continuing their education in pursuit of RMC, CMC and MMC certifications are eligible for a Scholarship. Candidates for all scholarships MUST be members of the Municipal Clerks' Association of New Jersey. CMC and MMC Scholarship applicants must be tenured Municipal Clerks. Scholarships shall be awarded at the Annual Meeting of the Municipal Clerks' Association of New Jersey on Wednesday, November 14, 2012 during the League of Municipalities Conference in Atlantic City: Four (4) RMC Scholarships; One (1) Peter H. Maclearie CMC Scholarship (Includes registration and 1 night's hotel accommodation); One (1) MMC Scholarship (Includes registration and 1 night's hotel accommodation). Completed applications should be mailed directly to: MCANJ SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE, c/o Karen Hughes, RMC, Westwood Borough, 101 Washington Avenue, Westwood, NJ 07675.

THE APPLICATION DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 1, 2012. You are encouraged to take advantage of this scholarship program offered to you by your Association. Please complete this application page (or a photocopy of it) and submit it as instructed. Should you have any questions, please contact Karen Hughes at 201-664-7100, ext. 101

MCANJ SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Name _____ Title _____

Municipality _____

Address _____

Date of Appointment as Municipal Clerk _____ Deputy/Assistant _____

Check One: MCANJ Dues are paid by municipality MCANJ Dues are paid by member

I am applying for the:

RMC Scholarship – cost of one (1) course

CMC Scholarship [tenure date _____] – for tuition to CMC program by Rutgers University and one (1) night's hotel accommodation.

MMC Scholarship [tenure date _____] – for tuition to MMC program by Rutgers University and one (1) night's hotel accommodation.

List RMC, CMC and MMC educational courses taken and indicate whether the municipality or you paid for the course.

Reminder: All applicants must be members of the Municipal Clerks' Association of NJ, Inc. Applicants for the CMC and MMC Scholarships must be tenured. Use a separate sheet of paper for a short statement as to why you feel this scholarship should be awarded to you and attach it to your application.

MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS ADVANTAGES:

If you are enjoying this issue of the *Quill*, and would like to continue receiving future issues in the mail, **MAKE SURE YOUR MCANJ 2012 DUES ARE PAID!** The 2012 Executive Board is continuing the practice of tying in the mailing list of the *Quill* with the dues list for 2012 MCANJ membership. So, if you have previously been receiving an issue of the *Quill*, and find that you are not receiving any more issues in 2012, check to make sure that your MCANJ membership dues are current and up to date. Membership in the Legal Defense Fund also requires that your dues be paid and current.

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PEOPLE PAGE

by Sharon Brienza



CONGRATULATIONS: RETIREMENTS

On behalf of the entire MCANJ membership, we congratulate the following recent retirees and wish them all the very best in whatever their future plans may be:



Bob Sandt, Borough Clerk of Hillsdale, (Bergen County).

Even though Bob retired on April Fool's Day, it was no joke!!

Jean Kuc, Rahway City Clerk (Union County), as of April 30. Jean's commitment to professionalism marks her career a success, and her ready friendship over the years reflects a true winner.

Reina Murphy, Edison Township Clerk (Middlesex County), effective July 1. After retirement, Reina will be moving to Florida. Way to go, Reina! Your hard work and willingness to help others is appreciated!

Thomas Kaczynski, Roseland Borough Administrator/Clerk, (Essex County), effective July 1. Tom declined to have his photo included in this issue, explaining "It might affect my identity in the Witness Protection Program." LOL, Tom!

Toni Falato, Paramus Borough Clerk (Bergen County), effective September 1. Toni expresses her appreciation for all of the help she received from her colleagues over the years, and will remember her time of public service as a "wonderful opportunity."

Joanne M. Monarque, Millburn Township Clerk (Essex County), effective July 1, after 26-1/2 years of government employment, the last 11 years as Municipal Clerk in Millburn Township. Joanne's retirement plans include traveling, reading, cooking and training to run another Marathon with her husband, Tom.

TRANSITIONS

Carla Smith is the new Acting Municipal Clerk in Fairfield Township (Cumberland County).

Jay Delaney is the new Municipal Clerk/Administrator for the Borough of Spring Lakes Heights (Monmouth County).

TRANSITIONS

Sue Witkowski left Hawthorne April 20, and became the Borough Clerk of Hillsdale (Bergen County), as of April 23.



Jeffrey Jotz was appointed City Clerk for the City of Rahway (Union County), effective May 1.

Jennica Bileci (Washington Township, Gloucester County) has moved on and up as the Administrator/Municipal Clerk in Pine Hill (Camden County).



Middlesex County welcomes Amy Antonides, Municipal Clerk in South Plainfield; Melissa Seader, Municipal Clerk in Piscataway and Leslie Zeledon, Deputy Clerk in New Brunswick.

Congratulations to Stella Ward for her appointment as Municipal Clerk in Old Bridge. Stella was the Deputy Clerk under Rosemarie Saracino who recently retired.

Mary Lou Bergh was named Municipal Clerk in Washington Township (Gloucester County), in June. She served as the Deputy Municipal Clerk in Medford Township (Burlington County) for the past eight years.

JUST FOR THE FUN OF IT

Bette Mastropasqua shared this wonderful picture of five generations of daughters in her family. The photo celebrates the birth of her great-granddaughter, Lina Annette Mesanko. Holding Lina is her mother, Bette's granddaughter, Alese Baccello Mesanko. Going right to left next to Alese is her mother, Bette's first daughter Cheryl Baccello, Bette, and her very spry and active 92 year old mom,



PEOPLE PAGE

by Sharon Brienza

CONDOLENCES

Deepest sympathy to the families of the following Municipal Clerks and retired Municipal Clerks who recently passed away:

Nancy O'Hara, City of West Orange (Essex County)

Michelle Broubalow, Phillipsburg (Hunterdon County) Municipal Clerk

Susan McGinley Spohn, retired, Administrator Clerk, Englewood Cliffs, (Bergen County)

Janet Betley, retired, Boroughs of Haddonfield & Tavistock, (Camden County)

Adele Widin, retired, Watchung Borough, (Somerset County)

Mary Elizabeth Sheppard, retired, City of Lambertville (Hunterdon County)

Sympathy is also expressed to:

Joanne Siedlecki, Corbin City, (Atlantic County) on the death of her mother.

Barbara Hawk, retired, Laurel Springs, (Camden County), on the death of her father.

Diane Testa, Fairview Borough Clerk (Bergen County) on the loss of her son.

2012 ANNUAL MCANJ CONFERENCE

Another successful conference was held at the Taj Mahal thanks to President Drew Pavlica and the Conference Committee. Atlantic City Mayor Lorenzo Langford welcomed all the attendees, as he has done the last few years.



The annual banquet included a celebration of the 85th Anniversary of the MCANJ. Several past presidents briefly spoke including Manny Hirshblond who reported the Treasury had \$9.00+ when he came onto the Executive Board and Sharon Brienza who spoke of her year as President in 2001 when the Fall Conference was held 2 weeks after 9/11.

Pictured at right: Keynote speaker Jean Robertson was the hit of the Conference while reminding everyone how important it is, especially in government, to have a sense of humor and not to bungee jump naked!



LEAGUE CONFERENCE VENDORS WANTED!

The 97th Annual League Conference is November 13-16, 2012. If you know a vendor with a product or service useful to your colleagues across the state, please help us to contact them, or ask them to contact us. From the simple everyday, to exotic new technologies – everything a municipality uses belongs at the Annual League Conference. It surprises some people to hear that all the new exhibitors learn about the League Conference through word of mouth. That makes you and your colleagues our most important partners. And all it takes is a conversation with someone you already know!

Full information is on our website NJSLOM.ORG under "Annual Conference," or ask your vendors to call the League office at 609-695-3481. They can get full information from Michael Darcy at extension 116 or Kristin Lawrence at extension 125. Please feel free to share this letter with any of your vendors, suppliers, or corporate friends. We would love to hear from them, and help them take full advantage of the opportunities available at the Annual League Conference – the largest municipal conference in the country!

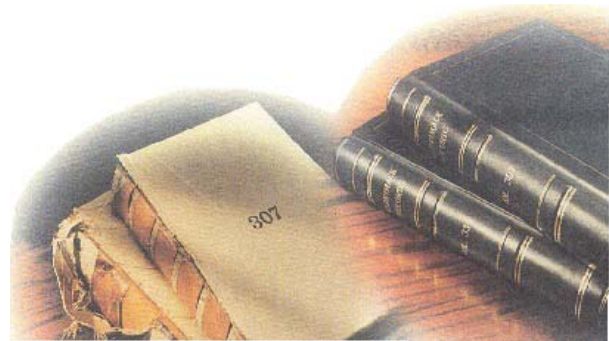
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Kristin Lawrence
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KLawrence@njslom.com

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League Policy Regarding Cancellations: Anyone canceling a reservation after November 7, 2012, will be responsible for the entire cost of the room. The Municipal Clerks' Association will not be responsible for the cost of any cancelled room. Please remember: If you make your room reservation through the MCANJ, you must cancel through MCANJ, not the hotel directly.

Please Print or Type:

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Municipality: _____

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Make checks payable to Tropicana Casino and Resort.

HAVANA SECTION _____ **OTHER** _____

My reservation will be for Tropicana Casino and Resort and I acknowledge that I am responsible for the cost of the accommodation and will honor the cancellation policy of notifying 2nd Vice President John M. Mitch no later than November 7, 2012. I further accept that cancellations made after this deadline date will require my payment of all cancelled room night costs.

Signature **Date**

Title/MCANJ Position

Return by August 31, 2012 to:

John M. Mitch, 2nd Vice President
Woodbridge Township
Address: 1 Main Street, Woodbridge, NJ 07095
E-mail: john.mitch@twp.woodbridge.nj.us
Phone: (732) 634-4500, x6404
Fax: (732) 602-6015



Reminder: Tickets for the Wednesday, November 14, 2012 MCANJ BREAKFAST are available through your County Advisory Board Representative. NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR.

WHEN WE SAY “TIME FLIES” SOMEONE FORGOT TO TELL THE LEGISLATURE

by Richard Lustgarten, MCANJ Legal Counsel



Welcome to another summer. While we ponder how long it takes to get something accomplished in Trenton, and why it seems that bills languish in committee interminably, we might want to consider the time frames of the founding of our nation. While we all know that the Resolution adopting the Declaration of Independence was approved on July 4, 1776, it is lesser known that it was actually adopted on July 2nd and signed on August 2nd. It took four years before General Cornwallis surrendered on October 19, 1781. It was not until September 3, 1783 that Great Britain and the United States signed the Paris Peace Treaty recognizing American independence. The Continental Congress did not ratify the treaty until January 14, 1784. In 1786, delegates from five states requested the Continental Congress to call a Constitutional Convention, which was subsequently adopted on June 21, 1788, some seven years after Cornwallis' surrender. The first ten amendments, known as the Bill of Rights, were submitted to the states on September 25, 1789, and went into effect on December 15, 1791 – fifteen years after independence was declared. And we think that having a bill signed into law in a year or two in modern times is a lengthy period. With this kind of legacy, it is amazing that

anything gets accomplished in any reasonable period of time.

Relating to my ongoing reporting of OPRA requests, the Appellate Division decided in May the case of O'Boyle vs. Borough of Longport, that the plaintiff was not entitled to certain documents that he learned about by reviewing Longport's outside counsel's bills. Outside counsel had been hired to defend Longport on other OPRA requests. The bills divulged that outside counsel had been in correspondence with another attorney who was representing non-governmental defendants, who had been joined in litigation with Longport by the plaintiff. Longport refused to supply certain letters and CDs that were requested, based on the fact that they were not in Longport's possession and that they were privileged communications. Both the Trial Court and the Appellate Division held that the letters and CDs exchanged between counsel were work-product privileged under the Rules of Court and did not have to be produced pursuant to OPRA. The larger significance of this case is that, assuming for the sake of argument, the documents and CDs requested were indeed government records, the confidentiality granted by the Court Rules was not trumped by OPRA, and therefore the work-product and attorney/client privilege prevailed.

Also, in May 2012, there was a trial court decision indicating that current and future public retirees were not guaranteed, and therefore not entitled to, cost of living increases with respect to their respective pensions. Plaintiff's argument essentially was that if cost of living increases (COLA) were not given or guaranteed, the value of their respective pensions would diminish over time, assuming an inflationary spiral in the economy which has historically occurred except when the country was in the great depression or in recessionary periods. The argument on the government side was that the amount of the pension was fixed at the time of retirement, based on salary and years of service, etc. and the government agreed that that amount would not be reduced. The government argued that an inflationary diminishment of the value of the pension was not the same as a reduction in the benefit, and this position was accepted by the trial court. As of this writing, it is my understanding that the decision will be appealed.

It is my opinion that the judge's decision was correct. A mere expectation of COLA increases is far different from a guaranteed promise to pay COLA on a periodic basis. The impact on the amount of the pension, diminished by inflation, is not per se the government's responsibility. Prices of goods and services increase and decrease due to macro and micro economic forces. Unless the Contract of Employment of the employee/pensioner guaranteed COLA increases, there is no contractual mandate for the government to grant such increases. We shall see if the Appellate Division agrees.

In another case, Correctional Medical Services vs. State of New Jersey, the courts were called upon to apply the doctrine of the "Deliberative Process Privilege". Generally speaking, this privilege states that in the formulation stage of determining government policy, internal documents reflecting discussions and processes relating to actual policy making are insulated from disclosure. In the instance case, the plaintiff was not paid by the State after the State conducted certain audits and claimed that money was due it from the plaintiff. During the course of judicial discovery, the State held back or redacted seven thousand documents, citing the Deliberative Process Privilege. Both the Trial Court and the Appellate Division determined that the privilege could not be properly invoked to withhold the internal discussions between various State agencies responsible for auditing plaintiff's contract, which resulted in the assessment of liquidated damages against the plaintiff.

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WHEN WE SAY “TIME FLIES” SOMEONE FORGOT TO TELL THE LEGISLATURE

by Richard Lustgarten, MCANJ Legal Counsel

Continued from Page 10

The court stated that decisions made following the contract formation to enforce compliance, were ministerial in nature and not the kind of deliberative process included in the privilege which enables frank and open discussions in setting governmental policy.

Consequently, on your local level, internal documents, minutes, and professional input may be excluded from OPRA if the information falls within the Deliberative Process Privilege because, using the O’Boyle rationale, Court created or evidential Rules privileges are not automatically abrogated by OPRA.

On another subject, I just received my primary ballot which is roughly the size of the United States maps that we used in grammar school. Because I live in Bergen County, the ballot is printed in three languages and of course is enhanced with the presidential candidates and their respective delegates for the national conventions. For the uninitiated, the ballot, to say the least, is daunting. Can’t wait to see the ballots in those communities that choose School Board elections in November as well.

To conclude where I started, the Constitutional Convention was called for May 14, 1787, but could not achieve a quorum until May 25th. The various states certified 65 delegates, but 10 did not attend.

The work of the convention was done by 55 delegates, not all of whom were present at all sessions. Of the 55 attending delegates, 16 failed to sign and 39 actually signed off on the work on September 17, 1787, some with reservations.

There is some historical observation that there were actually 74 delegates who were named and 19 failed to attend. The Constitution was ratified by votes of State conventions in December 1787 through June 1788, after the 9th State required for ratification had so voted. That last vote was in June 1788, but the government did not declare the Constitution in effect until March 1789 (New Jersey voted unanimously to approve the Constitution on December 18, 1787).

Hence from the Declaration of 1776 until we finally got going with the Constitution without the Bill of Rights – Eleven years.

And again, with that kind of kick-start here we are. Happy summer.

Richard Lustgarten
MCANJ Legal Counsel

MCANJ, INC. MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY
As of June 8, 2012

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
MUNICIPAL CLERKS	488
DEPUTYMUNICIPAL CLERKS	224
ACTING MUNICIPAL CLERKS	7
ASSISTANT MUNICIPAL CLERKS	18
COUNTY CLERKS	11
DEPUTY COUNTY CLERKS	6
CLERK TO FREEHOLDER BOARD	4
<u>AFFILIATE MEMBERS</u>	<u>22</u>
 GRAND TOTAL	 780

Submitted by
Keith Kazmark,
MCANJ Treasurer



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SLOGANS OF NEW JERSEY

Some municipalities were “First.” Some are our “Favorite.” And still others deal with the Past, the Present, or the Future. There are many colorful nicknames and slogans for New Jersey’s municipalities; and this series celebrates those Slogans. Each edition of the Quill, we’ll include some for you to enjoy. Test your knowledge by seeing if you can match the Municipality with the Slogan. Then turn to page 14 and see how you did! This issue’s theme celebrates slogans that share the message,

“PRIDE AND PROGRESS”

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| ___ Scotch Plains Township | A. Family, Progress, Commerce |
| ___ East Rutherford Borough | B. A People Helping People Community |
| ___ Little Falls Township | C. Community of Gracious Living |
| ___ Lopatcong Township | D. The Community of Opportunity |
| ___ North Haledon Borough | E. Iron Spirit |
| ___ North Plainfield Borough | F. "A Proud Community" (Somerset County) |
| ___ Ocean Township | G. City of Champions |
| ___ Garfield City | H. A friendly Community |
| ___ Irvington Township | I. "A Proud Community" (Passaic County) |
| ___ Rockaway Township | J. Our Town, Our Future |

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**International Institute of Municipal Clerks
Region II Update for June 2012**

I have just returned from the 66th Annual IIMC Conference in Portland, Oregon and what a wonderful educational experience it was. The Planning Committee outdid themselves with great educational sessions dealing with such topics as “Municipal Sustainability,” “Funding for Records Management,” “Personnel Risk Management,” “Clerk/IT Merger”, “Problem Solving and Decision Making Pitfalls,” and “Fraud – Is It Hiding in your Municipality.”

At the Annual Board of Directors Meeting, many issues were discuss and acted upon. Some of the major items:

1. The 2016 IIMC Conference was awarded to Omaha, Nebraska and will be held May 22-25, 2016
2. 2012 IIMC President Colleen Nicol formed a Blue Ribbon Task Force consisting of 9 extremely qualified individuals, including Philip Campbell from Prince William County, Virginia (Region II) to explore alternatives and recommendations for procedural and related policy changes dealing with Educational Guidelines, Institute Guidelines and Athenian Dialogues.
3. For the fifth year in a row, IIMC made a profit (\$94,252 in 2011).
4. Membership dues exceeded \$1 million
5. IIMC is currently in search for a new Director of Education. Executive Director Shalby will be reviewing the current requirements prior to advertising.
6. A complete review of the education guidelines for certification for all Region XI members (outside North America) will be reviewed.

As of May 24, Region II Director Diane Fitzhenry has resigned from her position due to job and family obligations. Her term is due to expire in May 2013. IIMC will be notifying all Region II State Presidents that applications to fill Diane’s term will be accepted and the deadline for submission. I’m pleased to announce that at our Region Meeting in Portland, those in attendance whole-heartedly endorsed Kimberly Rau from Maryland to serve out the balance of Diane’s term on the Board of Directors.

As everyone is aware, the 2013 IIMC Conference will be held in Atlantic City, NJ from May 19-23, 2013. If you have not done so, I urge you to join IIMC so that you’ll be able to take advantage of two discounts to that conference: \$50.00 discount for being a first-time attendee and another \$50.00 discount from being from Region II. That’s a total of \$100.00 off the registration fee but **YOU MUST BE AN IIMC MEMBER TO RECEIVE THESE DISCOUNTS!** Please don’t delay – join today!

In closing, I wish to extend my heartfelt wishes to all for a safe and enjoyable summer.

Vincent Buttiglieri, MMC
Region II Director



ANNUAL IIMC CONFERENCE

The Annual IIMC Conference was held in Portland, Oregon and in addition to the many educational opportunities and rain, everyone had some fun, too! The NJ Clerks in attendance helped out at the Atlantic City 2013 IIMC Conference table selling raffle tickets to next year’s IIMC Conference in Atlantic City. Pictured below: MCANJ President Drew Pavlica carries the New Jersey State Flag during Commencement, and then addresses the Conference Attendees.



A full contingent of NJ Municipal Clerks lent helping hands at the New Jersey Table, promoting the 2013 IIMC conference which will be held in Atlantic City.



SLOGANS OF NEW JERSEY: PRIDE AND PROGRESS

Here are the answers to the Matching Challenge shown on page 12

- J. Scotch Plains Township (Union County): We cheated on this one a little bit, since it wouldn't have been too challenging to come up with the right match for the full slogan, "Pride in Scotch Plains, Our Town, Our Future." Scotch Plains is family oriented, featuring many parks for recreation as well as a park area in the Watchung Mountains. One Country Club, two golf courses and an amusement park add to the variety within the community.
- A. East Rutherford Borough, (Bergen County) is a 3.9 square mile community located within Bergen County. While the size of the town may seem relatively small, East Rutherford is a proud center of "Family, Progress, and Commerce." Boasting a population of over 10,000 wonderful residents, East Rutherford is the hometown of hundreds of small and large businesses, and landmarks such as the Meadowlands Sports Complex.
- I. Little Falls Township (Passaic County) is named for the Passaic River waterfall that formerly spilled downstream from the dam in front of the Beattie Mill. Little Falls can trace its heritage back to 1711, and has managed to retain the feel of a small town despite its strategic location in the tri-state metropolitan area, making it "A Proud Community."

- B. Lopatcong Township (Warren County) was created as Phillipsburg Township on March 7, 1851, by an act approved by the New Jersey Legislature, and contained portions of Greenwich Township and Harmony Township. After Phillipsburg was incorporated as an independent municipality in 1861, the Township changed its name to Lopatcong, named after a creek in the area. Its proud tradition of community spirit earns Lopatcong the nickname "A People Helping People Community."



- H. North Haledon Borough (Passaic County): Can you imagine a more suitable spot for a settlement than a fertile green valley protected by two time seasoned mountain ranges? Such is the location of North Haledon, a small but thriving community, home to many family events as well as sports and recreational activities, making North Haledon "A friendly Community."
- F. North Plainfield Borough (Somerset County) is a 2.9 square mile area at the base of New Jersey's Watchung Mountains. Just twenty-three miles from Manhattan, the borough retains many small-town qualities. Tree-lined streets, the Washington Park Historic District, Green Acres parklands, sports and playground facilities, a 4H center, Arts Center, and a Senior Citizens Center are among the attributes which lend to North Plainfield's self-description as "A Proud Community."
- C. Ocean Township (Monmouth County) is known as "The Community of Gracious Living." The Township of Ocean is an 11 square mile area that prides itself on social diversity in its many neighborhoods while remaining a close-knit overall community. An involved citizenry includes many volunteers who serve on a variety of boards, commissions and committees utilizing their skills, experience, resources and time to enhance the positive qualities of the Township.

- G. Garfield City (Bergen County) earned the nickname "City of Champions" because the 1939 Garfield High School Football Team was National Champions, the Holy Name/Garfield Cadets were frequently winning DCI/National Drum and Bugle Corps Championships, Tippy Larkin "the Garfield Gunner" was Junior Welterweight Boxing Champion of the World in 1946, and because of the exploits of other Garfield heroes, as well.



- D. Irvington Township (Essex County) is, in the words of its Mayor, "a distinctive community that offers a robust roster of programs and services," which are geared to meet community needs with innovative initiatives, energetic leadership and committed partners. Irvington's future is brighter than ever, making it "The Community of Opportunity."
- E. Rockaway Township (Morris County) has been blessed with two significant natural resources: a rich deposit of magnetite iron ore and an abundance of water. Both played a major role in the history of the Township. In the early 1700s, iron ore was discovered at Mount Hope and Hibernia. The area's mines provided iron ore from Colonial times to the 20th century. This rich tradition of mining developed the "Iron Sprit" of this proud community.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, by Drew Pavlica (continued from Page 1)

The diverse educational sessions and broad spectrum of speakers at the IIMC Conference in Portland connected us to new ideas and raised awareness of successful worldwide professional practices. It was definitely a worthwhile experience for the entire delegation of Municipal Clerks from the Garden State who attended the Conference. It was also a terrific experience for me to address the whole Conference, introduce a video on Atlantic City, and to invite everyone to New Jersey for next year's IIMC Conference. What made it even more rewarding was seeing how receptive and excited people seemed to be at the invitation to come to New Jersey!

While away, we did not divert our attention from what is happening back home. The Executive Board has remained vigilant in keeping track of pending Legislation being proposed in Trenton. Treasurer Keith Kazmark and I have telephoned, and on another occasion, Immediate Past President Joanne Kwasniewski and Legal Counsel Richard Lustgarten have met with staff members of Senate Majority Leader Loretta Weinberg regarding reasons to oppose S-533, the "Common Sense Shared Services Act", which could adversely affect tenure for Municipal Clerks in certain Shared Service instances. The MCANJ Executive Board has also met with representatives of the Camden County Municipal Clerks' Association in regard to their concerns with strategies to defeat or amend this bill.

We are also keeping a close eye on S-2, Senate President Steve Sweeney's Shared Services bill, which would remove many of the so-called impediments to service sharing and consolidations caused by terminal pay requirements, employee tenure provisions and Civil Service statutes and regulations.

The MCANJ has received over 150 copies of resolutions from Municipalities opposing S-1451 concerning proposed changes to the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA), and opposing S-1452 concerning proposed changes to the Open Public Records Act (OPRA). I applaud all the Municipal Clerks who have enlightened their Governing Bodies to the adverse aspects of these bills.

On May 31st, former Municipal Clerk, and current Franklin Lakes Administrator, Greg Hart, who is an attorney-at-law, and I met with Senator James Whelan, Longport Mayor Nick Russo, representatives of the American Civil Liberties Union and Lori Buckelew of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities in the League of Municipalities Office in Trenton, concerning possible Legislation or other solutions to the hardship being experienced by the Borough of Longport, whereby one individual is constantly filing voluminous, numerous, all-encompassing OPRA requests that is preventing local government from performing other necessary functions and costing taxpayers hefty legal bills in trying to deal with certain OPRA requests. Mayor Russo indicated that the records requester has been quoted in a newspaper article that he is doing this "for sport" and has filed a request for 75 records on a single day, and returned to file additional and voluminous OPRA requests on subsequent days. It was gratifying to see a Legislator seeking input for Legislation to restrict this kind of abuse.

The MCANJ Executive Board and its Committees have met and communicated with other Legislators and are being proactive regarding other pieces of Legislation, as well. We will remain engaged and seek ways to affect Legislation in a positive manner that is in the best interest of our profession and government operations and, of course, the taxpayer.

It appears that, at this point, there is a respite from the challenging times regarding Legislation, until the Fall, or beyond. While enjoying the hot, sunny days of Summer, rest assured that the leadership of the MCANJ will use the time wisely to analyze the best approach to take in regard to events we may face in the coming months.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 973-340-2001 or email me at garfield-clerk@optonline.net.

Have a great Summer and before you know it, in four score and seven days, it will be Autumn and Football Season and another Legislative Session.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AND BREAKFAST NEW MEETING START TIME: 9:00 A.M.

The date of the Annual Business Meeting and Breakfast this year is Wednesday, November 14, 2012.

Breakfast will begin at 8:30 a.m.
The business meeting will begin at 9:00 am.

The price of the ticket will again be \$30.00.
The deadline for purchasing tickets is October 5, 2012.
As in the past, no tickets will be sold at the door.

Tickets will be available from County Advisory Board Representatives. Individuals interested in purchasing tickets should contact the Advisory Board Representative of their county.



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DEADLINES FOR NEWSLETTER ITEMS

The deadline for People Page submissions for the October 2012 issue is August 24, 2012.
Please send People Page news to Sharon Brienza, Municipal Clerk,
Branchburg Township, 1077 US Highway 202 North, Branchburg, NJ 08876
or via Email at Sharon.Brienza@branchburg.nj.us

The General News Articles deadline is August 31, 2012, and may be sent to Jim Doherty,
Township of Wantage, 888 Route 23, Wantage, NJ 07461
or via email to: administrator@wantagewp-nj.org.

Questions or comments regarding this or any issue of the *Quill* may be directed to the Editor,
Jim Doherty, by calling 973-875-7192 or using the contact information shown above.

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

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