

MUNICIPAL CLERKS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY, INC.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, by 2013 MCANJ President Nancy Saffos.



Greetings! I hope this edition of our Quill finds you all well and enjoying summer! I'm writing this message to all of you having just returned from the 2013 IIMC Education Conference that we, MCANJ, hosted in Atlantic City, May 18th through May 24th. To say it was a huge success is an understatement!

As promised, we met clerks from all over the globe, some who traveled long distances, to join us. We heard excellent speakers on a wide range of topics, all of which earned, at the very least, one (1) continuing education credit for NJ Municipal Clerks and there were quite a few that provided credits for NJ Registrars, as well. All totaled there were 114 approved Continuing Education Credits approved for New Jersey Clerks!

The opening ceremony began with the parade of flags, where each state from across our great country was represented, as were the other nine (9) countries, which were also represented at the conference.

There was also plenty of time for fun, fun and more fun! The All Conference Event was held on Wednesday evening and thanks to the incredible creativity of the folks at the Taj Mahal, the Atlantic City Visitor's Bureau and our fabulous conference committee headed by Chris Wilder, Retired Clerk from Hamilton Township, and Allan Susen, Clerk from Haledon Borough, a Beach Event it certainly was! From the dunes that lined our entrance into the event location, to all of the tasty boardwalk foods, such as pork roll, ice cream and salt water taffy, to name just a few; to the airplanes appearing to fly overhead of us all, as we ate and danced the night away; to the fabulous music provided by The "B" Street Band – it was a FANTASTIC Conference.

Although the Conference is now a memory, it won't soon be forgotten - that's for sure. We continue to receive messages from attendees, as far away as the e-mail I received from a new acquaintance, in the United Kingdom, thanking and congratulating us on providing for "the best conference ever."

Many thanks to the MCANJ Executive Board: John Mitch, 1st VP, Keith Kazmark, 2nd VP, Denise Szabo, Treasurer, Dina Zawadski, Secretary, Drew Pavlica, Immediate Past President, and our Executive Director, Joel Popkin, as well as past MCANJ Past Presidents, Barbara Hawk, Heather Mailander, Joan Moreland, Vinny Buttiglieri and Joanne Kwasniewski, for all of their support. A special thank you goes out to both Chris Wilder and Allan Susen, the conference co-chairs, and to all those who volunteered their time long before and during the conference. Thanks to you all, compliments were extended all week long and continued to be received through phone calls and e-mail messages sending thanks to New Jersey for its warm hospitality and for a wonderful conference!

Our state government officials have been busy this year proposing changes that directly impact the office of the Municipal Clerk. The GREAT NEWS is S 2433 (providing for the President of MCANJ or their designee to have a permanent seat on the GRC), successfully passed both the Assembly and the Senate on May 30th and is on its way to the governor's desk for his signature. We are hopeful the governor will see the value in this legislation and sign the bill into law.

Additionally and also fortunately S 2364 (Early Voting), which passed both the Assembly and the Senate along party lines, was Absolutely Vetoed by the Governor! Thanks to all those clerks who reached out to their assembly and senate representatives on this matter. Our phone calls and opposition resolutions, along with our continued and direct involvement with proposed legislation, has absolutely had an impact on our legislatures, so please continue to stay tuned and stay involved; your efforts have not been wasted; they have been extremely valuable. You have made a difference!

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