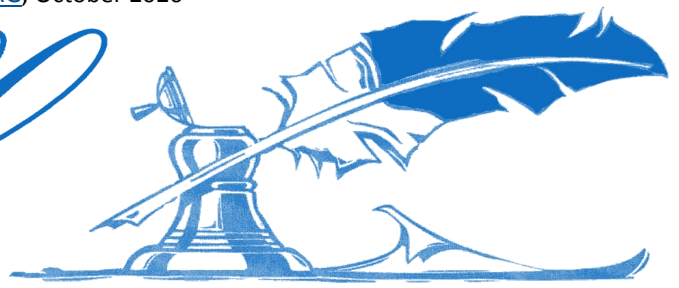


The Quill



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE EILEEN GORE



Page 1

Message from President Eileen Gore

EMAIL: President@njclerks.org

The summer of 2020 was like no other than any of us have ever known, and just like many of you, I was forced to change my plans. My thoughts of sitting on the beach praying to the sun gods that I could get a sun kissed tan rather than a blistering burn went out the window when COVID-19 decided to make itself the unwelcome visitor for the season, which still, hasn't left us yet. Now mind you, I don't always end the summer with a deep tan, but at least I could see a healthy mild glow for goodness sake – but nada, zilch, zippo! I am still retaining my winter shade of pale Irish for goodness sake not to mention my freckle count is well below average. I'll just have to try again next year, but I can only hope this winter doesn't set me back to a whiter than pale Irish skin tone because that guarantees me a good week or two of sunburns. But I guess that's enough about summer, let's move on to fall...the changing leaves, a bowl of chili, the crackle of a fire along with the smell of burning wood, and a little something to help keep the chill of the night air at bay. Let's not forget that there's no better time than to take a car ride and see the changing colors with a couple of stops along the way to appreciate all that nature has to give us. So, happy fall everyone and I wish you all continued good health as we turn the corner of seasons.

NOMINATIONS FOR CLERK OF THE YEAR ARE BEING ACCEPTED



Page 7

The MCANJ Executive Board has been hard at work with membership and LDF registrations. Thank you to the many who responded to our reminder postcard and processed their 2020-2021 membership renewal. Currently, we are conducting a membership drive for the Legal Defense Fund. The LDF was created specifically for MCANJ members to provide financial assistance from the expense of attorney's fees, court filings, litigation costs, or other legal fees. With a \$500 deductible per application, the LDF will cover expenses up to \$7,500. Let's face it, while we never want or expect anything to happen with our employment with a town, you should be prepared in case the unexpected does happen, which is especially true in these uncertain times. The initial membership fee is \$75.00 paid via personal check with a yearly renewal fee of \$25.00. You can't buy that type of insurance at such a low cost anywhere! The deadline for membership is November 1st so don't delay in sending your application. A free seminar which is open to all LDF members is scheduled for January 15, 2021 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Hamilton (Mercer). The seminar will provide a morning and afternoon session complete with RMC and IIMC credits. Additional information about the seminar and speakers will be forthcoming.

Election and
Presidential Stuff
By:
Richard Lustgarten,
Esq.



Page 8

The 2021 MCANJ Education Conference is scheduled for March 15 through March 18, 2021. This year's conference theme is *New Paths to Successful Leadership*. Sessions are shaping up nicely with all the required disciplines being offered. My thanks to the hard work of the members of the Conference Committee led by Co-Chair Debra Sopronyi of Hightstown and Co-Chair Michele Seigfried of Robbinsville. As with all things COVID, the Committee is currently reviewing all options to determine the best venue by which to conduct the conference.

Continued on Page 4

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A MUNICIPAL CLERK BY MICHELLE LYNN SEIGFRIED



Page 10

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 Michele Bobrowski, Treasurer at Treasurer@NJclerks.org. 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.

EDITORIAL STAFF FY 2020/ 2021

Editor: Michele Bobrowski, Alexandria Twp. (908) 996-7071 ext. 210 E-mail: clerk@alexandrianj.gov
Contributing Editor: Drew Pavlica, City of Garfield (973) 340-2000 ext. 4012 E-mail: apavlica@garfieldnj.org
People Page: Pam Borek, Hillsborough Twp. (908) 369-4313 E-mail: pborek@hillsborough-nj.org
Advertising: Joel Popkin, MCANJ Executive Director (732) 609-6441 E-mail: joelpopkin@optonline.net
Day in the Life of a Municipal Clerk: Michele Seigfried, Robbinsville (609) 259-3600 Email: micheles@robbinsville.net

PAST EDITORS:

1954-1959: J. Ford Flag	1960-1970: John R. Zellweger	1971-1973: Joseph E. Bennett
1974-1982: Harry C. Kates	1983-1993: Janet L. Lynds	1994-1995: Patricia Hullfish and Patricia C. Shuss
1996-2000: Patricia C. Shuss	2001-2005: Nancy Hatten	2006-2015: Jim Doherty
2015-2017: Joseph Kostecki		

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MCANJ PAST PRESIDENTS * EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

1975: Alfred A. Reda	2000: Nancy Hatten	2013: Nancy Saffos
1977: Otto M. Bock	2001: Sharon L. Brienza	2014-15: John M. Mitch
1981: L. Manuel Hirshblond	2003: Allan Susen	2016: Keith Kazmark
1985: Elizabeth G. Nolan	2004: Joel Popkin	2017: Denise Szabo
1987: Lewis N. Thompson	2005: Jane Williams-Warren	2018: Dina Zawadski
1988: Elaine Wallace	2006: Elaine B. Kennedy	2019: Kevin Galland
1993: John J. Galvin	2007: Barbara M. Hawk	2020: Diane M. Pflugfelder
1994: Kathleen A. Thorpe	2008: Heather Mailander	
1995: Christina N. Wilder	2010: Vincent Buttiglieri	
1996: Joseph C. Favaro	2011: Joanne M. Kwasniewski	
1997: Elizabeth H. Kiss	2012: Andrew J. Pavlica	

IIMC PAST PRESIDENTS

Robert Radford, Hasbrouck Heights Borough	Thomas Redanauer, Barrington Borough
Joseph V. Valenti, Woodbridge Township	Elizabeth H. Kiss, East Brunswick Township
Christina N. Wilder, Hamilton Township	Vincent Buttiglieri, Ocean Township
Joseph T. Carney, Englewood City	

MCANJ ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS FY 2020/2021

Atlantic:	Paula Geletei, Atlantic City	Middlesex:	Susan Jackson, Metuchen Borough
Bergen:	Heather Mailander, Village of Ridgewood	Monmouth:	Vincent Buttiglieri, Ocean Township
Burlington:	Patricia Hunt, Moorestown Township	Morris:	Elizabeth Osborne, Madison Borough
Camden:	Michele Miller, Somerdale Borough	Ocean:	Christine Hannemann, Surf City Borough
Cape May:	Danielle Nollett, Avalon Borough	Passaic:	Allan Susen, Haledon Borough
Cumberland:	Denise Peterson, Maurice River Twp	Salem:	Melinda Taylor, Oldsman Township
Essex:	Tara Ventola, Glen Ridge Borough	Somerset:	Pam Borek, Hillsborough Township
Gloucester:	Jennica Bileci, Mantua Township	Sussex:	Anna Rose Fedish, Lafayette Township
Hudson:	Alberto Cabrera, Guttenberg Twp.	Union:	Available
Hunterdon:	Ceil Covino, Clinton Township	Warren:	Kristin Shipps, Knowlton Township
Mercer:	Kim Macellaro, Ewing Township		

NEW JERSEY CLERK 'S COUNTY ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS FY 2020/2021

Atlantic:	Paula Geletti, Atlantic City	Middlesex:	Susan Jackson, Metuchen
Bergen:	Stephanie Evans, River Edge	Monmouth:	Pam Borghi, Red Bank
Burlington:	Kim-Marie White, Eastampton Township	Morris:	Mary O'Keefe, Butler Borough
Camden:	Bonnie Taft, Oaklyn Borough	Ocean:	Diane Ambrosio, Ocean Twp. (Waretown)
Cape May:	W. Scott Jett, North Wildwood	Passaic:	Amanda Curling, Passaic City
Cumberland:	Lisa Garrison, Greenwich & Woodbine	Salem:	Melinda Taylor, Oldsman
Essex:	Eleni Pettas, Nutley, NJ	Somerset:	Pamela Borek, Hillsborough Township
Gloucester:	Kathy Van Scoy, Paulsboro	Sussex:	Amy Lobban, Sandyston Township
Hudson:		Union:	Nicole Dirado, Union County
Hunterdon:	Ceil Covino, Town of Clinton	Warren:	Diane M. Pflugfelder, Liberty Twp.
Mercer:	Kim Macellaro, Ewing Township		



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President Eileen Gore's Message-continued from Page 1

So with that said, MCANJ members will be receiving a short survey in the coming weeks regarding your upcoming conference experience. Please take a moment to respond to the survey, as it is vital in helping the Committee prepare for the conference. Once we have gathered the responses, a decision will be made whether it will be held virtually or on-site at the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City. So many great ideas have been struck for either venue that I am sure you will not be disappointed with the outcome. We will keep everyone updated as things progress.

Also in the near future, the MCANJ will be announcing a fundraising opportunity that we hope you will participate in. The purpose of this fundraiser is to further grow our scholarship fund. The Scholarship Fund enables members to receive financial support towards their RMC, CMC, and MMC Programs or free registrations for the following years' conference. So please, support the MCANJ in this venture as we strive to support our membership through education.

Here is a little Local Finance Notice newsworthy information - all DLGS certifications with expiration dates occurring on or after May 15, 2020 have been temporarily extended one year. Renewal cycles commencing after the expiration of certifications temporarily extended pursuant to P.L. 2020, c. 34 shall revert to their original two and three-year statutory time periods. If an unlicensed individual appointed as acting municipal clerk is serving in that capacity as of May 15, 2020, that individual may be appointed for one additional year in that acting or temporary capacity, subject to Director approval. A local government must complete and submit to the Division the same application and questionnaire form ordinarily completed to seek an extension of acting status for the additional year for record keeping and consistency purposes. Listed below are the temporary extension or renewal cycles for Registered Municipal Clerks:

DLGS-Licensed Position	Current Statutory CEU Renewal Deadline (by Cycle)	Extended CEU Renewal Deadline (by Cycle)	Next CEU Renewal Deadline (by Cycle) Following Extension
Registered Municipal Clerk 	September 30, 2020	September 30, 2021	September 30, 2023
	October 31, 2020	October 31, 2021	October 31, 2023
	December 31, 2020	December 31, 2021	December 31, 2023
	April 30, 2021	April 30, 2022	April 30, 2024
	September 30, 2021	September 30, 2022	September 20, 2024
	October 31, 2021	October 31, 2022	October 31, 2024
	December 31, 2021	December 31, 2022	December 31, 2024
	April 30, 2022	April 30, 2023	April 30, 2025

Election Day, November 3rd is rapidly approaching and again we are faced with changes like no other in the history of NJ Elections. Governor Murphy issued Executive Orders Nos. 177 and 179 in response to COVID-19 which makes the November Election primarily Mail-In Ballot only. With this being such a pivotal election, I have the utmost confidence in my fellow NJ Municipal Clerks who hold the oldest and one of the most respected positions in government accompanied by the highest standards of honesty, integrity, fairness, impartiality and professional conduct to make their town's residents best served by their office. It will be a challenging day, but one for which you are up to the task! I wish all of you the best of luck this November.

The month of November also brings the New Jersey League of Municipalities Conference. The NJLM Executive Board and Officers announced that the 105th Annual New Jersey State League of Municipalities Conference will be held virtually the week of November 16-20, 2020. During a typical conference year, the League provides over 125 sessions. This year, NJLM was forced to reduce that number due to a change in platform. After much discussion, the MCANJ Executive Board determined that it would be best to withdraw from the conference this year. The Executive Board did not take this decision lightly, and we are confident that Municipal Clerks will have sufficient CEU offerings at the conference available to them through alternate affiliate organizations. Please refer to the NJLM website for additional information (njlm.org).

Applications for MCANJ Secretary Candidates are now being accepted by Lucy Samuelson, MCANJ's current Secretary. The application can be found on our website (njclerks.org). Any individual seeking to be a candidate for the position must file with the Secretary no later than January 15, 2021.

Continued on Page 9

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 pborek@hillsborough-nj.org, along with a picture and caption to be included in future editions of the Quill.

PASSAIC COUNTY:



Congratulations to MCANJ Past-President Keith Kazmark on his new position as Woodland Park Administrator.



Best Wishes to MCANJ Past-President Kevin Galland on his retirement as Woodland Park Borough Clerk/Administrator. Kevin retired on July 31, 2020 after 15 years of service.



Congratulations to Sandra Olivola on her appointment as Woodland Park's new Borough Clerk!

ESSEX COUNTY:



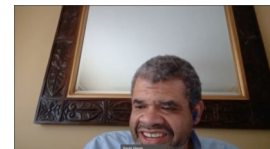
Congratulations to Angelese Bermudez Nieves to the position of Municipal Clerk for Montclair Township!

Congratulations to Deputy City Clerk, Dale A. Forde of the City of East Orange on earning her Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) designation granted by IIMC.

Best wishes to Montclair Deputy Township Clerk Juliet Lee on her retirement on September 30, 2020.



Congratulations to Tara Ventola (pictured on the left) on her appointment as Glen Ridge's Borough Clerk!



Best of Luck to departing South Orange Village Clerk Kevin Harris on his new endeavor as Kean University Director of Affirmative Action!

Congratulations to Ceci Tramontana on being promoted as Nutley's Deputy Municipal Clerk

HUNTERDON COUNTY:

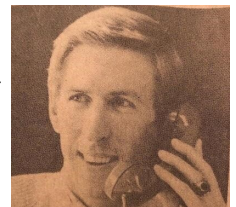
Congratulations to Karin Parker on her appointment as Municipal Clerk in Readington Township.

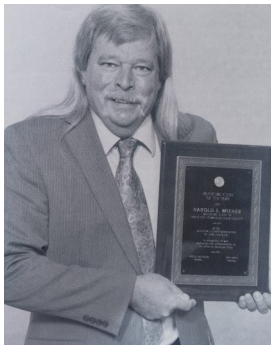


Congratulations to Readington Township Clerk/Administrator Vita Mekovetz on her retirement which took effect on August 1, 2020! Pictured to the left are Municipal Clerks from the area that surprised Vita at her Municipal Building with a bouquet of flowers to wish her well. (L-R) Ceil Covino (Clinton Town), Michele Bobrowski (Alexandria Township and MCANJ Treasurer), Karen Romano (Lebanon Boro), Lisa Fania (Raritan Township), Vita, Maria Andrews (West Amwell Township), Karin Parker (Readington Deputy Township Clerk), Karen Dysart (Milford Boro) and Noralie Lefevre, (Retired Milford Boro Clerk).

MORRIS COUNTY

Condolences to the Family and Friends of retired Rumson Borough Clerk Gary Sammon. Gary served as Rumson Borough Administrator during a 34-year career in local government and died on August 2, 2020. He was 77. He started as the Assistant Administrator, and also served as Borough Clerk, Secretary to the Planning and Zoning Boards, and Registrar of Vital Statistics.





Past Municipal Clerk of the Year Recipients

Name	Municipality	Award Year
Pamela Borek	Hillsborough Township	2018-2019
Andrew J. Pavlica	City of Garfield	2017-2018
John M. Mitch	Woodbridge Township	2016-2017
Sharon Young	West Windsor Township	2015-2016
Joanne Kwasniewski	Borough of Fair Lawn	2014-2015
Cecilia Covino	Town of Clinton	2013
Elaine Kennedy	Eagleswood Township	2012
James Doherty	Wantage Township	2011
Harold E. Wiener	Irvington Township	2010
Sharon L. Brienza	Branchburg Township	2009
Jane Williams-Warren	Paterson City	2008
Nancy Hatten	Tenafly Borough	2007
Linda Wanat	Montclair Township	2006
Kevin Yecco	Wildwood Crest	2005
Kathleen Wisniewski	Springfield Township	2004
Elizabeth Mastro-pasqua	Beachwood Borough	2003
Lucille Debiak	North Haledon Borough	2002
Angela H. Pileggi	Ocean City	2001
Christina N. Wilder	Hamilton Township	2000
Joeseeph C. Favaro	Englewood Cliffs Borough	1999
Joel Popkin	Neptune City Borough	1998
JEan Pelican	Franklin Township	1997
Doris Polidore	Garwood Borough	1996
Barbara Camp	Upper Township	1995
Doris L. Dukes	Hackensack City	1994
Elaine Wallace	Middletown Township	1993
Lewis N. Thompson	Millville City	1992
Elizabeth G. Nolan	East Windsor Township	1991
Elizabeth H. Kiss	East Brunswick Township	1990
Peter P. Yecco	Wildwood City	1989
L. Manuel Hirsh-blond	Dover Township	1988
William E. Hurd	Absecon	1987
Janet L. Lynds	Wood-Ridge Borough	1986
James O'Keefe	Morris Township	1985
Dorothy Carlson	Stratford Borough	1984
Norma B. Sisco	Sparta Township	1983
Joseph Valenti	Woodbridge Township	1982
Valentine Meissner	Irvington Township	1981
Frank D. Ascensio	Newark City	1980
Otto Bock	Westville Borough	1979
Stephen C. Berry	Glen Ridge Borough	1978
Margaret Mazurie	Sea Isle City	1977
Robert I. Radford	Hasbrouck Heights Borough	1976



NOMINATION FOR MUNICIPAL CLERK OF THE YEAR

CRITERIA TO BE NOMINATED: A County Association or an individual Clerk may nominate a candidate for Municipal Clerk of the Year. Previous honorees are those individuals who have made positive contributions to our profession for the benefit of all of us. The Association invites you to submit the name of a Municipal Clerk who has had an impact on our profession and who should be considered for this prestigious honor.

- All nominees must be members of the Municipal Clerks' Association of NJ, Inc., currently employed as Municipal Clerks and tenured in their positions.
- Current members of the Executive Board and former recipients of the award are not eligible.
- Qualifications must include activities within the MCANJ and may include related community and volunteer work. The selection of the annual "Municipal Clerk of the Year" is made by the Executive Board and announced at the Association's Annual Meeting held during the Association's Annual Education Conference held each spring. **Deadline for submission is December 31, 2020.**

Nominee: _____

Appointment Date: _____

Municipality: _____

Address: _____

County: _____

Qualifications of Nominee:

*** Attach statement in support of Nominee's candidacy (maximum 500 words)

Nomination made by: _____

Address: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY DECEMBER 31, 2020 AND MUST BE MAILED TO:

Lucy Samuelson, Secretary
c/o Somers Point City
1 W. New Jersey Avenue
Somers Point, NJ 08244
Phone (609) 927-9088
Email: secretary@njclerks.org

History of the "CLERK OF THE YEAR" Award

The "Distinguished Service Award" was given only once, in 1976. Thereafter, it became known as the "Municipal Clerk of the Year Award" and is awarded annually at the MCANJ Annual Business meeting during the Municipal Clerk Conference. The recipient is chosen by members of the Executive Board for the MCANJ and is a well-guarded secret until the announcement is made by the previous year's recipient. To the left is a list of all the past recipients of this prestigious award and a little photo montage of some of the recipients as well. Who will be the Clerk of the Year for 2021???

ELECTION AND PRESIDENTIAL STUFF

By Richard A. Lustgarten, Esq.

Since this is election season, I chose a topic concerning, obviously, elections but as you will see this is not about Title 19, or “basics”, such as how many feet from the polling place you must be to campaign or forms that must be filed etc. As municipal clerks you know better than most about election process, problems and complaints.

Rather, this article shall cover briefly the evolution of the electoral process, some disputed elections and some facts about our Presidents. Finally, a summary of the pros and cons of the Electoral College.

Constitutional background

Article II, sec.1, clause 3, as originally constituted established the procedure for Electors to vote for the President and Vice-President. Each Elector would cast two votes without distinguishing between the two offices. The person receiving the greatest number of votes would be elected President provided that the number is a majority of the votes cast. If more than one person has the majority (if there were multiple candidates) or the number is tied then the House of Representatives would select one of them as President. After the selection of the President the next person with the greatest number of votes would be Vice-President but if there is a tie, then the Senate shall choose the winner. This process caused problems.

The elections of 1796 and 1800 proceeded under these rules. The Constitution was changed by the adoption of the Twelfth Amendment so that the Electors would vote for a President and separately for a Vice-President. Other provisions were included in the Amendment relating to procedures for ties and how voting would occur in Congress. This Amendment was ratified in 1804 as a result of the election of 1800 which will be discussed below. (Please note that the Twentieth Amendment, adopted in 1933 changed some of the terms of the Twelfth Amendment but these changes are not relevant to this discussion.) Most, but not all, of the problems originally encountered relating to Presidential elections have been resolved. By current custom and tradition along with the Twelfth Amendment, Presidents and VPs run as a ticket and this avoids the pitfalls of the first several elections where two candidates of different parties and philosophy could be elected together. The Electoral College remains controversial as a candidate can win the popular vote but lose the electoral and therefore the election. This has happened five times. In 1824 A. Jackson won the popular vote but lost to J. Q. Adams in the electoral college. In 1876 S. Tilden won the popular vote but lost by one electoral vote to R. B. Hayes. Likewise G. Cleveland won popular but lost electoral to B. Harrison in 1888. In 2000 A. Gore won popular but lost electoral to G. W. Bush and most recently in 2016, H. Clinton won popular but lost electoral to D. Trump.

Each state gets the number of electors equal to the number of Senators and House members that represent it. There are 100 Senators and 435 House members and the District of Columbia gets 3 for a total of 538. Hence 270 is required to win the electoral vote. Based on the last census there are 7 states that have the bare minimum of three electors (Alaska, Del., Montana, N. Dakota, S. Dakota, Vt. and Wyoming while California has 55 and Texas has 38 by way of comparison.)

Disputed elections

Election of 1800

In our fourth election (Washington twice, then Adams) the Federalists nominated Adams for President and Pinckney for VP. The Democratic Republicans nominated Jefferson for President and Burr for VP. The DR's gave the same electoral votes to Jefferson and Burr so no one had a majority. The Federalists decided to back Burr as a lesser “evil” than Jefferson. The election was turned over to the House of Representatives to decide the issue. It voted 35 times with no resolution. While the Federalists had the votes by number of members in the House, the process called for one vote per state of which the Federalists did not have the majority. Jefferson was elected on the 36th ballot. Some historians believe that Hamilton shifted some sentiment from Burr to Jefferson thus insuring his victory. (Perhaps one reason for the infamous duel between Burr and Hamilton. If you were a good student in high school or you saw the musical you know how that turned out.)

Election of 1824

The next election decided by the House, after the Constitution was amended in 1804, occurred in this year with four major candidates. They were John Quincy Adams, Henry Clay, William H. Crawford and Andrew Jackson. When the Elector's votes were counted Jackson had 99, Adams 84, Crawford 41 and Clay 37. Therefore, no one had the majority and the decision was sent to the House. Under the Twelfth Amendment only the three top contenders would be considered. Clay was dropped and the other three were hoping for his support. A scandal broke out when it was alleged that Adams would appoint Clay as Secretary of State in exchange for his support.

Continued on Page 11

Reminder-Don't forget to renew your 2020/2021 MCANJ Membership at njclerks.org

President Eileen Gore's Message-continued from Page 4

No additional applications shall be accepted after this date. The criteria for eligibility to seek office is that "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". This position shall serve from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 and will then annually ascend to the next higher office.

Lastly, we have so many wonderful municipal clerks who have made positive contributions to our profession and their community for the benefit of all of us, but all too often these people go unrecognized. I know that most of us could think of at least two people within our own county that fits this category! With that being said, we ask that you take a moment out of your busy schedule to nominate someone that you believe to be worthy of the Municipal Clerk of the Year Award. We so often sit back and think that someone else will do it or that it's always the same group of people that will be selected. Every accomplishment starts with the decision to try!

Please note that all nominees must be members of the Municipal Clerks' Association and currently tenured in their position. Qualifications include activities within the MCANJ and encouraged to include community and volunteer work as well. The deadline to submit your nomination is December 31, 2020. We look forward to many nominations as they are a clear representation of the many talented clerks within our Association.

Please continue to stay safe, stay well and stay strong as we continue to navigate through our new and constantly evolving "normal".

Eileen

MCANJ LEGAL DEFENSE FUND REGISTRATION

While we never want or expect anything to arise during our employment with a town, you should be prepared in case the unexpected does happen. This is especially true in these uncertain times!

The Legal Defense Fund (LDF) was created for MCANJ Members in order to provide them financial assistance with the costs associated with legal representation. With a \$500.00 deductible per application, the LDF will cover legal expenses up to \$7,500.00.

We are currently holding an Open Enrollment Period for MCANJ members. The initial enrollment fee is \$75.00 (personal check only), with a yearly renewal fee of \$25.00. You can't buy that type of insurance anywhere.

All it takes is 5 minutes to fill out the application to ensure that your employment rights are protected. It's better to be prepared for something that may never happen, than be unprepared if it does!

The deadline to register is November 1st.

To register go to www.njclerks.org, click on Legal Defense Fund, click on: LDF Application 2020. Complete the application & mail your personal check for \$75.00 to the address noted on the application.



**“Heard it on Facebook, Part II”
A Day in the Life of a Municipal Clerk
By Michele Lynn Seigfried**

I hope you enjoyed my column last month. Since I continue to laugh at the silliness on Facebook, I thought you might enjoy a continuation of what has helped me ease some of the stress caused by the outside world these days. Here is what funny people are sharing on Facebook lately:

I feel like Oompa Loompas should come out and sing a song at the end of every month of 2020 about the lesson we should have learned.

There is an amazing new lipstick that helps you lose weight. It's called Gorilla Glue.

A person walks into a bar and orders a Corona and two Hurricanes. The bartender says, "That will be \$20.20."

Seeing how some people wear their masks, I now understand how contraceptives fail.

If a supervisor at work gets COVID, do the people who kiss butt need to be quarantined?

Dear 2020: First of All, I'd like you to know that I'm typing this with my middle finger.

This school year, I am really going to miss that rush of getting to the sign-up sheet first and getting to pick napkins!

When you turn 40, multitasking just means you sneeze and pee at the same time.

Next pandemic, I'm picking unemployment over being an essential worker.

Listen carefully, Marty. Whatever you do, don't set it to 2020.

It may take a village to raise a child, but I swear it is going to take a whole vineyard to home school one.

The spread of COVID is based on two factors. 1. How dense the population is and 2. How dense the population is.

So let me get this straight, there's no cure for a virus that can be killed by sanitizer and soap?

When this virus thing is over with, I still want some of you to stay away from me.

People are scared of getting fined or arrested for congregating in crowds, as if catching a deadly disease and dying a horrible death wasn't enough of a deterrent.

One day, "2020" will be a one-word catch-phrase for everything messed up. "How's your day?", "A total 2020."

"Essential" Worker...because "sacrificial" sounded too dark.

I hope the weather is good tomorrow for my trip to Puerto Backyarda. I'm getting sick of Los Livingroom.

At the store, there was a big X by the register for me to stand on. I've seen too many Road Runner cartoons to fall for that!

Due to the recent coin shortage, I will no longer be accepting anyone's two cents.

Continued on Page 12

Reminder-Don't forget to renew your 2020/2021 MCANJ Membership at njclerks.org

Heard it on Facebook, Part II” - *Continued*
A Day in the Life of a Municipal Clerk
By Michele Lynn Seigfried

I love how we as a country watched adults fail miserably at social distancing but are convinced kindergarteners will figure it out.

The coin shortage is from people going to fountains and wishing 2020 was over!

Did you know the sports cap of a water bottle fits on top of a wine bottle? (A tip for those who are homeschooling).

No one tells you you're old. You have to come to that realization all by yourself while reading Amazon reviews for light bulbs.

I decided to put a coin in a bucket every time I got irritated. Within an hour, the world had a coin shortage.

If you can't think of a word, say "I forgot the English word for it." That way, people will think you are bilingual instead of an idiot.

All I learned during quarantine 2020 is that Bigfoot's name is Darryl.

I have no idea what is open or closed anymore. I just walk toward automatic doors and if my face hits the glass, I turn around and go home.

No one is full of more false hope than a parent bringing a chair to the beach.

Today, someone knocked on my door and asked for a small donation toward the local swimming pool. I gave him a glass of water.

I asked my doctor how long he thinks COVID will last and he responded with, "How should I know? I'm a doctor, not a politician."

If you come into this store without a mask, we will have to take your temperature. P.S. We only have rectal thermometers!

I miss paying \$72 for a large popcorn and drink at the movies.

I wish Corona started in Las Vegas because what happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas.

On a final note, please always remember that Clerk friends are irreplaceable because no bond is stronger than having to go through the same crud for 8 hours every single day! Stay safe, my friends.

IIMC's 75th Celebration in Grand Rapids, Michigan.
This will be a five day event, look for the Preliminary Conference
Program this Fall.



ELECTION AND PRESIDENTIAL STUFF– Continued from Page 8

By: Richard A. Lustgarten, Esq.

Clay vigorously denied this “deal”. Adams won on the first ballot and later appointed Clay as Sec/State. Surprise! This election was dubbed the “corrupt bargain” election. (Jackson got his revenge in 1828 in a rematch with Adams, beating him 178 to 83 in electoral votes and by almost 139,000 popular votes, a fairly large number at that time.)

Election of 1876

The Democrats nominated Samuel Tilden and the Republicans nominated Rutherford Hayes. Tilden won the popular vote by about 250,000 out of 8.5 million. However the electoral vote was undecided as three southern states results were disputed. This election was post-civil war and during reconstruction. Southern whites were contesting the votes of newly enfranchised black voters. South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana each empowered two separate slates of electors. Congress established a 15 member commission to resolve the dispute comprised of five Senators, five House members and five Supreme Court Justices. An independent was the “swing” vote in this group. However, he was appointed to the Senate and resigned from the commission. The Republicans had the votes to replace him and the Commission then sided with the Republican slates of electors from the three Southern states. The establishment of the commission required both houses of Congress to accept its findings. The Senate did but the House did not. The House Democrats threatened a filibuster to block the recounting of the electoral votes based on the commission’s acceptance of the Republican slate as submitted by the Southern states. For a compromise, Hayes indicated that he would withdraw Federal troops from the South thus ending reconstruction if he were selected. He was and he did.

Election of 1888

Grover Cleveland was the Democratic incumbent President running against Benjamin Harrison. Cleveland won the popular vote but lost the electoral college.

This occurred because he won substantially in smaller states with had less electoral votes while also losing key states by small margins. The popular vote for Harrison was 5,439,853 and for Cleveland—5,540,309. Harrison won the electoral college

233-168. (He lost in a rematch 4 years later.)

Election of 2000

This was the election contest between George Bush and Al Gore. At issue was the counting of ballots in Florida. (Remember the discussion of “hanging chads” and indented impressions concerning paper ballots used.) The margin of vote differential was 537 for Bush out of around 6,000,000 cast. One of the legal issues in the matter was whether or not there was a uniform standard to be used to accurately count the ballots in Florida’s 67 counties. There were also issues as to deadlines as to when the “official” count needed to be certified. After much litigation in state and federal court the matter went to the U.S. Supreme Court which ordered all counting to cease. Bush won the vote in Florida and the presidency.

Some fast facts about our Presidents

Twenty-six of our forty-five Presidents served in the military.

Four sitting Presidents were assassinated—Abraham Lincoln (1865); James Garfield (1881); William McKinley (1901); John F. Kennedy (1963)

Two were injured in attempted assassinations----Theodore Roosevelt (1912); Ronald Reagan (1981). (William Henry Harrison died 31 days into his term in 1841 purportedly from pneumonia or para -typhoid fever contracted from a long winded inauguration speech.) This position is rather hazardous to one’s health as I guess no matter what decision you make, half the country is mad at you.

James is the most common first name. Madison, Monroe, Polk, Buchanan, Garfield and Carter.

Ancestral background: Dutch-3; English-36; French-7; German-11; Irish/Scots Irish-23; Kenyan-1; Scottish-17; Swiss-3; Welsh-15.

The shortest president at 5’4” was James Madison and the tallest was Lyndon Johnson at 6’4”.

All of the Presidents were white males except for Barack Obama and all identified with the Protestant Christian faith except John F. Kennedy who was Catholic.

Continued on Page 13



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www.njclerks.org

ELECTION AND PRESIDENTIAL STUFF– Continued from Page 12

By: Richard A. Lustgarten, Esq

With respect to education, 23 graduated from a private undergraduate school, 9 from a public undergraduate school and 12 had no degree. (While President Trump is the 45th President he is only the 44th person to hold that title as Grover Cleveland was elected twice but not consecutively. That is why the totals add to 44.)

Some pros and cons about the Electoral College

As we know, the framing of the Constitution was often contentious. Issues over a strong centralized government versus a conglomeration of states with independent state's rights were vigorously debated and led to various compromises and ultimately the Bill of Rights (first ten amendments) was adopted to accommodate multiple viewpoints. One of the issues, of course, was the question of direct or indirect voting for the President. As shown above the methodology using the Electoral College proved problematic and had to be amended to resolve unforeseen (or ignored) issues. The following is just a quick summary of the prominent arguments for and against maintaining the current system.

PROS:

- 1) Promotes fair regional representation by giving small states a voice in the process. If the popular vote were all that was counted, candidates would have no incentive to spend their time and resources, for example in South Dakota or Rhode Island. Small state collective electoral votes might tip the balance in a close election.
- 2) It provides for a clean cut outcome (most of the time) and avoids costly recounts in various states. 270 is the magic number out of 538 and that tallying is certainly more easily ascertainable than the popular vote. For example in the last election over 128 million total votes were cast. Asking for recounts in various states is time consuming, expensive, has to meet calendar deadlines and leaves the country in doubt for a period of time as to who won.
- 3) It makes it easier for candidates to campaign as they can concentrate on large electoral vote states. (This argument somewhat contradicts number 1) but it is in the top three usually referenced.)

CONS:

- 1) It can make people feel that their vote doesn't matter. A collective number of small states electoral votes can ameliorate a large state. (I don't buy this argument that votes don't matter as all electoral votes will have an impact on the outcome of the election and individual voters determine the electoral vote from their state.)
- 2) It gives too much power to swing states. Candidates will gravitate to them, assuming "their" states as a given and ignoring the "safe" states of the other candidate.
- 3) It can and has clashed with the popular vote as seen above, and as recently as 2016.
- 4.) There is a possibility of "rogue" electors. (This outcome is virtually negated by the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Chiafalo v Washington*, decided on July 6 of this year wherein the Court stated that a state can enforce an elector's pledge for a particular candidate thus eliminating the "faithless elector" argument.)

Good luck on election day with voting by mail-ins, in person, drop boxes and the like. The public may never give you enough credit for the work that you do but democracy cannot survive without your dedication.

Someone recently told me that if you fall on your face, have no remorse 'cause you're still moving forward. I don't know about that but if you don't chip a tooth, break your nose, or bruise your eye, probably makes sense. Just like Presidential elections. Stay safe!



RENT-A-CLERK PROGRAM

If you have recently retired, or know of someone who has, and you/they want to get back into the profession please contact Elaine Kennedy (ebeverly@comcast.net). We have a listing of available individuals to assist with fulfilling short and long term municipal clerk positions.

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PEOPLE PAGE– continued page 5

MIDDLESEX COUNTY:

Congratulations to Old Bridge Township Clerk Stella Ward on her retirement on September 30th and congratulations to Gabriella Siboni (pictured on right) on her appointment as the new Old Bridge Township Clerk!



Best Wishes to Dan Torrissi on his retirement as New Brunswick City Clerk/Administrator!

MONMOUTH COUNTY:



Jean Bryan Montfort passed away at the age of 72 in March of 2020. Jean was the Borough Clerk of Matawan for 15 years.

MORRIS COUNTY:



Congratulations to Stacy Sullivan-Gruca who was sworn in as the Montville Township Clerk!

BERGEN COUNTY:

Arlene M. Raymond, retired Emerson Borough Clerk passed away on May 18, 2020. Arlene worked more than 40 years for the Borough and loved every minute of it.

SUSSEX COUNTY:

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Diana Francisco who retired as Andover Township Clerk in June and moved to California!

UNION COUNTY:



Roselle Park Borough Clerk Julia Kauflers passed away February 2020 at the age of 89. Julia was the Borough Clerk from 1988-1995.

SOMERSET COUNTY:

Congratulations to Edith Gil on her appointment as Watchung Borough Clerk! Edith began her work in the Borough on Monday, June 8th after being hired by the Borough Council in May.

ATTENTION: MCANJ 2020 Annual Education Conference Registration Winners:

Congratulations on being a winner of the MCANJ 2020 Annual Education Conference registration through the business card draw on the last day of the 2019 conference. Unfortunately the 2020 conference had to be cancelled due to the Global COVID-19 Pandemic.

Please be advised that your business draw winner status shall be carried to the MCANJ 2021 Annual Education Conference registration. **All 15 (fifteen) of you are winners in 2021!**

To continue your eligibility as a recipient in 2021 you must be an active member of MCANJ when 2021 conference registration opens.

This scholarship covers the registration 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.

The 2021 MCANJ Annual Conference will be held the week of **MARCH 15, 2021** at Hard Rock Casino in Atlantic City, NJ. Additional information regarding the conference, registration, hotel information and will be available on our website (www.njclerks.org).

Contact Information for the 2020/2021 MCANJ Executive Board



President Eileen Gore
Hamilton Township
Mercer County
EMAIL: President@njclerks.org



1st Vice President Kim Marie White
Eastampton Township
Burlington County
EMAIL: 1vicepresident@njclerks.org



2nd Vice President-Denise Cafone
Fairfield Township
Essex County
EMAIL: 2vicepresident@njclerks.org



Treasurer Michele Bobrowski
Alexandria Township
Hunterdon County
EMAIL: treasurer@njclerks.org



Secretary-Lucy Samuelson
Somers Point City
Atlantic County
EMAIL: secretary@njclerks.org



Immediate Past President Diane M. Pflugfelder
Liberty Township/Warren County
EMAIL: ImmediatePastPresident@njclerks.org



Executive Director Joel Popkin
Email: executivedirector@njclerks.org
Retired Clerk-Neptune City
Monmouth County

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NJLM Conference

105th Annual November 17-19
Atlantic City Convention Center



Tuesday, November 17

Conference and Exhibits Open

12:00 Noon

12th Annual Sustainable Jersey Awards Luncheon

2:00 p.m.

The League Welcome Cafe: Orientation

An Update from the Division of Local Government Services (GFOA/TCTA/NJLM)

Laughter & Leadership: How Humor Can Make You a Better Leader

Managing Litter During a Pandemic

Bringing Wellness to Your Community: Mayors Wellness Campaign

Mayors Committee on Art & Culture

Strengthening the Vitality of Your Community Through Placemaking

3:00 p.m.

NJLM RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

3:45 p.m.

Reinventing Your Downtown After Economic Upheaval

School & Municipal Cooperation

SHBP/PERS Update

Energy Master Plan

Municipal Emergency Management in the Age of COVID-19

Continuing Communication During a Crisis

Sustainable Jersey Grants and Technical Assistance Programs

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

9:00 a.m.

Affordable Housing Update (NJPO/NJLM)

Technology to the Rescue: Resiliency During Social Distancing

Economic Stimulus

Sustainable Jersey Program Update: New Actions & Initiatives

9:00 a.m.- Noon

Cannabis Tandem Session

10:45 a.m.

ABC of Alcoholic Beverage Control

Urban Mayors

Effective Management of Municipal Water Resources

12:15 p.m.

MAYORS' BOX LUNCH

2:00 p.m.

Elected Officials Primer: Budget & Procurement

Recent OPRA Decisions

Urban Enterprise Zone Assessment-Lessons & Next Steps
NBC-LEO

Legislative Leadership: Working Together for a Better NJ

Municipal Finance

Former Governors

Addressing Sexual Harassment in Government

Advancing Sustainable Energy Communities

3:45 p.m.

Annual Risk Management Seminar

Procurement (NJLM /GPA)

Women's Session

Opioids Response

Public Engagement: What's the Point?

5:15 p.m.

WOMEN IN MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT-Networking and Awards Event

Thursday, November 19, 2020

9:00 a.m.

Interest Arbitration & Negotiations Update 2020

Public Contracts Law & Regulation Update (GFOA/TCTA/GPA)

Planning Special Occasion Events (NJLM/NJPO)

Police-OHSP-Extremism

Municipal Waste Reduction Strategies

9:00-12:00 noon

Property Tax – Advanced (Tandem) (AMA/NJILGA)

10:45 a.m.

Labor Law and Personnel Policy Update

OPMA & Civility: Administration of Public Meetings

Shared Services

Census 2020

Flood 2.0

Expanding Boundaries: Local Roles to Nurture Healthy Communities

12:00 Noon

NJLM DELEGATES LUNCH

3:30 p.m.

NJLM Business Meeting

CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY



KEEPING THE GARDEN IN THE GARDEN STATE

Course Code	Dates	Time	Instructor	Fee	Location
PZ-3309-FA20-1	12/1, 12/8	10:00am-12:00pm	State Agriculture Development Committee	\$130	Online Zoom

Continuing Education Information:

This is a two-day session. Attendees must attend both dates to receive continuing education credits.

- Rutgers Planning/Zoning Board Secretary, Zoning Official, Land Use Administrator – 4 technical contact hours
- NJ DCA Certifications – 4 contact hours for RMC (Professional Development) and CPWM (Government)
- **IIMC Points – 2 education points for CMC/MMC**

All registrations for online/distant learning and in-person courses must be received NO LATER than two business days before the class begins. Late registrations will not be accepted.

Presenters: Cindy Roberts, SADC Development and Training Coordinator, Charles “Chuck” Roohr, SADC Chief of Agricultural Development and Stewardship Brian D. Smith, Esq., SADC Chief of Legal , Affairs Alison Reynolds, Esq., SADC Legal Specialist Course will be offered through Zoom.

Session log-in details will be emailed to registrants two days before the event. Continuing education credit information will be supplied pending successful attendance and completion of a brief learning assessment.

ONLINE REGISTRATION AVAILABLE AT [CGS.RUTGERS.EDU](https://cgs.rutgers.edu)

SAVE THE DATE!!!!

A free seminar which is open to all LDF members is scheduled for January 15, 2021 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Hamilton (Mercer). The seminar will provide a morning and afternoon session complete with RMC and IIMC credits. Additional information about the seminar and speakers will be forthcoming.

MCANJ MEMBER SPOTLIGHT AWARD Do you know a Municipal Clerk, Acting Municipal Clerk, Deputy Municipal Clerk, Assistant Municipal Clerk, County Clerk, Deputy County Clerk, Freeholder Clerk or a Deputy Freeholder Clerk who is a current member of MCANJ (Municipal Clerks’ Association of New Jersey) and they bring positive attention to the role of “Clerk”? They are eligible for nomination!!!! We want to recognize a MCANJ member who promotes their position as “Clerk” through civic activities and events in their work or home community that is outside the scope of their normal duties and responsibilities. Nominees who are selected for recognition will be announced through electronic communications and posted on the Municipal Clerks’ Association of New Jersey website. So if you know a fellow Clerk who has been doing amazing things– go to the MCANJ website at www.njclerks.org, fill out the Spotlight Nomination Form and send it to Eileen Gore at president@njclerks.org so we can all celebrate this achievement!!

BECOME THE NEXT MCANJ SECRETARY FOR 2021/2022

APPLICATION FOR CANDIDACY MCANJ SECRETARY

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 2020 - 2021 the following application must be filed by January 15, 2021 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, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Municipality Employed by: _____

Position: _____

** Date of Original Appointment: _____

** Date(s) of Reappointment: _____

** RMC Certificate Number: _____ Date Issued: _____

I, _____, hereby certify that I am actively employed by
_____ as a Municipal Clerk and am qualified to submit
(Municipality)

my name as a candidate for the office of Secretary of the MCANJ for fiscal year 2021-2022.

Signature

Date

** Attach certified copies of Resolutions of Appointment and RMC Certificate.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JANUARY 15, 2021 AND MUST BE MAILED TO:



Lucy Samuelson
City of Somers Point
1 W. New Jersey Avenue
Somers Point, NJ 08244
(609) 927-9088
secretary@njclerks.org



the *Quill*
Editor - Michele Bobrowski
88 Inskip Avenue
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DEADLINES FOR NEWSLETTER ITEMS

The deadline for People Page submissions for the January 2021 issue is December 1, 2020. 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 December 8, 2020, 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.