

Spring 2008



MAMC Newsletter

Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks

Annual Education Day

Educational Seminar and Membership Meeting

The Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks is holding its annual education day on Monday, March 17, 2008 at the Lansing Center in Lansing Michigan. This popular event is FREE to MAMC members. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. with the membership meeting beginning at 9:00 a.m. The day long educational seminar counts towards points for CMC and MMC certification. Topics include Elections Update from the Bureau of Elections, the Legislative Process and Board of Canvassers. Secretary of State, Terri Lynn Land will also speak. For further details, registration information and driving directions, visit the MAMC web site at www.michiganclerks.org



Secretary of State, Terri Lynn Land will also speak. For further details, registration information and driving directions, visit the MAMC web site at www.michiganclerks.org



MAMC Board Elections

Calling all Clerks

Looking for a fun and rewarding experience? This is it. The following Board positions will be on the ballot:

- 3rd Vice-President (City)
- Secretary (Director at-large)
- Directors: 2 City - each for a 2-year term
- 3 Township - each for a 2-year term

Applications are available at www.michiganclerks.org. Submit your application to be a candidate for the 2008 MAMC Board Election to: Janet Santos, CMC, Bangor Charter Township, 180 State Park Drive, Bay City, MI 48706

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MAMC Financial Report for February 2008



Beginning Balance	\$ 46,508.62
Deposits/Credits	19,340.00
Interest	111.10
Withdrawals	6,634.08
Ending Balance	
*Main Bank Account	59,325.64
*Investment Account	35,000.00
Total Funds	\$ 94,325.64

Betty L. Kennedy, MMC, MAMC Treasurer



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CMC & MMC ACHIEVEMENTS



The following individuals have earned the prestigious **Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC)** designation from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) in the following months:

November	Jean Wahlfield, CMC Gail A. Ratliff, CMC Elizabeth Wietfeldt, CMC	Township Clerk Deputy Clerk Deputy Clerk	Alpine Township City of Auburn Hills Thomas Township
December	Kim Courts, CMC Jeri D. Moak, CMC Amanda Sleigh, CMC Lindsay A. Howes, CMC	Township Clerk Deputy Clerk City Clerk City Clerk	Charter Township of Flint Charter Township of Northville City of South Haven City of Three Rivers
January	Holly Thompson, CMC	Deputy Clerk	City of Williamston

The following individuals have earned the prestigious **Master Municipal Clerk (MMC)** designation from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) in the following months:

December	Nancy L.M. Banks, MMC	City Clerk	City of Southfield
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Please join us in congratulating these individuals for their achievements.

Council of Election Officials / Legislative Committee Update:

The MAMC Legislative Committee has been meeting monthly to review proposed legislation affecting local clerks and the election process. Following, the CEO meets to coordinate election issues between MAMC and the Michigan Association of County Clerks(MACC.)

MAMC/MACC Lobbyist Bill Zaagman has kept both committees up-to-date on issues regarding voter registration simplification, permanent AV lists, no reason AV's, early 'In-person" AV voting and school election date reform. When important issues come up, we've kept the membership informed via the listserv and will continue that practice.

You can visit the MAMC website (www.michiganclerks.org) to review minutes of our meetings, the most recent Bill Matrix summarizing proposed legislation and whether or not the MAMC/CEO has expressed support or opposition! The Matrix is under Committees/ Legislative page. Recent Bill movement that should be of interest to you is:

- HB 4739 Enables 1st time voters who registered my mail, to verify their registration in person with photo ID at 'any' clerk's office
- HB 4774 Allows voter registration at 'any' clerk's office with photo ID
- SB 135 Provides for permanent absent voter file
- HB 4507 Requires school board elections to be held on either odd November, even November or even August, but not annually
- SB 1086 Increases the days petition signatures are good for from 160 to 210, giving a more realistic time to verify and address challenges
- SB 1087 Requires petition circulators to be 'qualified' electors, thus eliminating 'cross-state' elected official bounty hunters

Both Committees have recently approved a recommendation from the School Election Date Sub-Committee recommending legislation for school election date reform. You can view the recommendation on the MAMC website.

We're always interested in your help and input, so fill out the Legislative Input form which can be found on the MAMC website under Legislative Committee and email it to me at tblake@cityoffremont.net.

*Todd M. Blake, CMC,
Legislative Chair*



Life after Clerking

Congratulations and good luck to our retiring Clerks

On behalf of the MAMC board, congratulations and good luck to the following retiring Clerks:

Terri Hegarty, City Clerk of the City of Grand Rapids

After thirty long years of service to the City, Terri has decided to retire and enjoy life with her family. We all know she will miss the excitement of election day and will **NOT** miss the ever changing election laws....who knows, she might be sitting at the polls, working as an election worker the next time you see her! Please drop her a quick line and wish her well.....



Joan Weishaupt-Jones, City Clerk of the City of New Buffalo

Joan became a Clerk at age 17 for the village of New Buffalo. When New Buffalo incorporated as a city in 1965, she continued serving and, until now, was the only Clerk the city had! After forty-six years of service, Joan decided to retire on February 29, 2008. The best part she liked about the job was "working with the people". Joan served with many city councils and eight city managers. She was the first woman appointed as an auxiliary police officer for the city. Now with all her spare time, Joan plans to travel to visit her family.

Rae Oldaugh, City Clerk of the City of Roseville

Rae retired in November 2007 after serving the city for 20 years. Just before her retirement, Rae sent this note to her fellow Michigan Clerks; "As I begin the next phase of my life, I want to tell all of you what an adventure it's been working with you and being a part of the adjustment to all the changes in elections in the past ten years or so. What a great group you are! Take care of yourselves, each other and your voters the way you always have".

Ed Weessies, Township Clerk of Laketon Township

Ed retired January 1, 2008 after eleven years of service to his community. Ed said he will miss the residents, staff and "the many fine clerks I served with in Muskegon County, the MAMC and the CEO". Ed is now spending his time camping and traveling. Ed served on the MAMC Board of Directors and the Legislative Committee.

My warmest regards to our retiring clerks,

Dana Muscott
MAMC President

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Technology Rules

Reminders about listserv and membership

Never before has it been more important to be in communication with other individuals in our profession. Can you imagine how we functioned before email and listservs? These days in the election business, our procedures and requirements change from day to day. How great it was to have the listserv and receive instant instructions from our state Bureau of Elections. Even more important, we are constantly, on a daily basis, hearing from each other. For example, we learned how to process absent voter ballots in big and small communities, we shared how we prepared for this election in an effort to protect the privacy of our voters, we shared questions and answers for all sorts of issues. It is a real comfort to know that the members of the MAMC are so supportive of each other.



So if you think that the listserv is sometimes a pain, remember the important information that came your way during this election. I think you will agree, it is a very useful tool.

Don't forget when you answer a question, please do not **REPLY TO ALL**. Share your response only with the sender. If you want to receive the same information that the sender requested, simply let that person know so they can forward their responses to you. Also, keep in mind, the listserv is intended for the sharing of information and ideas, not necessarily personal opinions or editorials. If you are not currently receiving the listserv emails, I strongly urge you to sign up. Just send me an email at nweiss@ci.birmingham.mi.us and I'll sign you up. You must be a current member to participate.

Thanks to all who responded to our request to renew your MAMC Membership by completing the on-line form and mailing it to our treasurer. We have had a great response and as of today, we have almost 600 of our members who have renewed for 2008. I am sending an

email to each of you as I enter your application information into our database. Please be patient if you have not yet heard. You are being assigned a membership number which you will receive with your membership confirmation. In the future, you will need that number to access our website.

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Nancy M. Weiss, CMC
MAMC Membership Director

Join IIMC

Reminders about listserv and membership



The International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) promotes education and professional development of Municipal Clerks through education programs, networking, conferences and research. There are currently 10,400 members of IIMC. IIMC can help you find solutions to everyday problems, enhance your critical professional skills and improve your work performance. If you are not already a member please visit www.iimc.com to download a registration form!

Past Presidents Committee

Our past presidents still do a lot of work for MAMC

The Past Presidents Committee is responsible for:

1. Conference Site Selection: request for quotes and make recommendations to the Board.
 2. Annual Board member Election: distribute notice of positions to membership, receive application from candidates, prepare ballots and equipment and oversee the election process.
- Other tasks as assigned by the President of MAMC.

The Past President's Committee Members are:

Janet Santos, CMC
Terri Kowal, CMC
Tonni Bartholomew, MMC
Sandra Abrams, CMC
Colleen Schwartz, MMC

Feel free to contact anyone of your Past Presidents if you have any questions or ideas.

Janet Santos, CMC
Immediate Past President

Mark your calendars!

The 2008 MAMC annual educational conference is June 9-13 at Crystal Mountain. Look for complete details in the next MAMC newsletter this May.



Dana Muscott receives Ruby Award

MAMC President recognized for accomplishments



Dana L. Muscott represents one of the "upward, bright and young" professionals in the Bay City area. In February Dana was recognized for her accomplishments in the form of a *Ruby Award*. The distinguished award is presented to individuals in the Bay City Tri-City area under the age of 40 who have shown exemplary professional success, as well as community and nonprofit involvement.

Muscott, 39, is President of MAMC. She serves as clerk and deputy city manager of administrative services for the city of Bay City. Before coming to Bay City eight years ago, Muscott was deputy clerk with the Charter Township of Saginaw.

She said one of her goals is to be a role model for her children growing up in the mid-Michigan area. "From going through Vision Tri-County and then getting the Ruby Award, I really do have an outlook

of how we should act as a region," Muscott said. "I really do want to make a difference so my children will see what they need to do as they grow up."

School Election Date Survey

Joint Sub-Committee recommends amending legislation

The results are in! Thanks to all MAMC members who participated in the school election date survey. A joint sub-committee of the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks, Michigan Association of County Clerks and Council of Election officials have reviewed the survey results and recommend that legislation be introduced that amends election law to provide the following regarding School Board Elections:

- Elimination of annual elections for school board members
- School Districts may select from the following list of dates to hold board elections:
 - ▶ Odd year November (City Election)
 - ▶ Even year August (State Primary Election)
 - ▶ Even year November (General Election)
- School Districts will have an opportunity to select any of these three dates for their regular election, but an "Even" year selection must have consent of the election coordinator.
- Township and City Clerks may "opt out" of the odd year November Election only with the consent of the election coordinator.

The joint sub-committee considers this proposal to be beneficial to the election community, school community and voters.

Visit the MAMC web site (www.michiganclerks.org) to further review the proposal and check for progress updates.



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MAMC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Term expires: 2008



The MAMC Board of Directors typically meet on the third Wednesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. at the Delta Township Hall. MAMC members are welcome and encouraged to attend. Meeting agendas and minutes are available on the MAMC web site, www.michiganlcerks.org

First Vice President

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Director - Education Co-Chair

vacant

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