Greetings!
First thing first, thank you for giving me the honor of serving as your 2015-2016 President.

Thank you must go to Chris Swope for an outstanding year as President, Betty Kennedy for serving as our Treasurer for many years, both have gone above and beyond for us.

And thank you to our immediate past President Carolyn Boersma for her many years on the Board. Thank you to Dawn Walker for serving as Secretary for the past few years.

Welcome to our new Treasurer, Mary Clark, who will do a great job, and our two new Directors, Anna Perales and Leon Wright, both will represent MAMC well.

Director Assignments for the 2015-2016 Year are as follows:
• Sarah Bydalek, 1st Vice President: Council of Elected Officials Committee
• Susanne Courtade, 2nd Vice President: Legislative Committee
• Dan Kasunic, 3rd Vice President: Newsletter/Website
• Leon Wright, Director: Secretary
• Mary Clark, Director: Treasurer
• Holly Thompson, Director: Ways & Means/Media Relations
• Lisa Hathaway, Director: Membership/CMMC Program
• Jennifer Venema, Director: Conference Chair
• Jeremy Howard, Director: Education Chair
• Anna Perales, Director: Conference Co-Chair
• Lanie McManus, Director: Education Co-Chair
• And of course, Chris Swope, Past President

We had a great conference at Mission Point on Mackinac Island; our education sessions were top notch, our networking was outstanding, and our vendors are the best. Remember our vendors help with so many aspects of our conference, so please take the time to thank them.

We announced the theme for the 2016 conference, it being “Capital Stampede.” We are already working to make this one very memorable. So at budget time make sure to include Education dollars, for conference.

Motivation – the reason or reasons one has for acting or behaving in a particular way.

Municipal Clerks/Deputy Clerks are motivated by our high standards of ethics to do the best job possible every time.

Accepting – consent to receive (a thing offered).

We continue to be accepting of many tasks that have to be completed timely, accurately, and truly done with Clerk style.

Modesty – the quality or state of being unassuming or moderate in the estimation of one's abilities.

We are truly committed to our positions as Municipal Clerks as well as our Directors are committed to serving the membership of MAMC.

I am excited about the upcoming year, it will be great. Contact me with comments or suggestions.
Meet the New MAMC Board Members

Dan Kasunic, City of Kentwood

Dan has been the City Clerk of Kentwood since being appointed in 2000 and then elected in 2001. He had been on the Board of Directors prior to his 2015 election to the Board as a Director, Third, Second and First Vice President before becoming your 2012-13 MAMC President. He received his certification as a Master Municipal Clerk in 2014. He has served as president of the Kent County Clerks Association and President of the Friends of the Kentwood Library and member on the City of Kentwood Arts Committee. He is grateful to be allowed to serve once again on the Board of Directors.

Leon Wright, Charter Township of Van Buren

Leon Wright has been Clerk of the Charter Township of Van Buren since 2008. First elected in November 2008 and re-elected in November 2012. He has been instrumental in engaging young voters in his community through hosting of the High School Student Council elections. This innovative program brings the real-life voting experience to students by transforming the high school into a voting precinct. Coded ballots and M100 tabulators are utilized while graduating seniors serve as precinct inspectors. Students participate in this program, entirely funded by donations, throughout their entire high school career. Leon holds a Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) and Certified Michigan Municipal Clerk (CMMC), designation. He is a member of the Michigan Township Association (MTA), International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC), Association of Wayne County Clerks (AWCC) and Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks (MAMC). He serves as President of the Association of Wayne County Clerks (AWCC), a Board Member of the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority (MMRMA) and most recently was elected Township Director on the board for the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks (MAMC).

Anna Perales, City of Holland

My name is Anna Perales and I am the Deputy City Clerk of the City of Holland. I have been with the City of Holland since 1999, starting out in the Treasurer's office as a part-time cashier and then became full-time with City Clerk's office in 2000.

I started as an elections assistant and moved into the Administrative Aide to the City Clerk position in November of 2003. In May, 2008, I was asked to add more responsibilities and take the title of Acting Deputy City Clerk. In June, 2011, I became Deputy City Clerk. I serve as Deputy Clerk with the role of the City Clerk, and have a staff of 1 full-time and 4 part-time people.

The City of Holland serves over 33,000 residents and has more than 23,700 registered voters. Since I took on the role of Deputy City Clerk, my office has reduced the number of polling places from 15 to 6, and has become a Passport Acceptance Facility. I completed the City of Holland Leadership Academy in 2012. I am an advocate for the Victim Services Unit with the City of Holland Public Safety Department, and have obtained FEMA certification from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. I am a past Secretary, Treasurer, and President of the Ottawa County Clerks Association.

I have obtained both my Certified Municipal Clerk in 2013 and Certified Michigan Municipal Clerk in 2014.

I am married with 3 adult children and 5 grandchildren. In my free time, I enjoy being “Nana” to my grandchildren and spending time with them. I enjoy socializing and meeting people, gardening, and reading. I serve as assistant for baptisms at St. Francis de Sales Church.
Education Update

Summer has almost come and gone, and that means another great MAMC Summer Conference has finished. I hope that you enjoyed all of the great educational opportunities that took place at this year’s conference. Many thanks to outgoing Education Chair Mary Clark and current Education Co-Chair Lanie McManus for the spectacular job they did with education over the last year. Based on the feedback received, I think everyone was very pleased with the selection of classes this past year. Please share any feedback you have on past education sessions or ones that you would like to see at future events as repeats or new topics. You can email comments or suggestions to us at jhoward@mt-pleasant.org and lmcmanus@garfield-twp.com.

I greatly enjoyed my time working on the conference last year with Jennifer Venema and the Conference Committee, but I am excited to be able to take on the challenge of Education Chair this year. I look forward to working with my co-chair Lanie McManus and the Education Committee to bring you some great educational opportunities throughout the next year.

Some dates to remember (watch for information on our website):
- 4/14/2016 – MAMC Free Education Day (Mt. Pleasant - Soaring Eagle Conference Center)

Have a great rest of the summer, and we look forward to seeing you at our upcoming MAMC events!

Financial Report

Mary Clark, CMMC
Delta Township
MAMC Treasurer


Bank Statement
Beginning Balance $206,118.21
Deposits/Credits 6,949.29
Interest 9.88
Withdrawals 16,439.29

Ending Balance
Main Bank Account $196,638.09
Investment Account 26,068.89

TOTAL FUNDS $222,706.98

U. P. Clerks Training Day
Friday, September 11, 2015
City of Marquette
Lakeview Arena - Citizens Forum Room
More details at www.MichiganClerks.org
Ways & Means

A By-law Amendment was overwhelmingly adopted by our members during the Membership Meeting at our annual conference in June. This amendment addresses the code of ethics for all members of MAMC. Previous to this, the MAMC was silent on ethics and guidelines for professional conduct. Work will continue into 2015 to review the MAMC’s By-laws and identify areas where clarification may be needed.

The MAMC’s Clerk of the Year Awards were awarded to three very deserving clerks from our great state. In-person voting opportunities were given during the Clerks Institute, Masters Academy, and Free Education Day, with mail-in ballots also accepted. The winners were honored at the Clerk of the Year/President’s Dinner during the conference on Mackinac Island. This year the awards went to: Dana Muscott, City Clerk, City of Bay City; Chelsea Mikel, Township Clerk, Sharon Township; and Kathryn Arledge, Village Clerk, Village of Fowlerville. Secretary of State, Ruth Johnson was also on hand to recognize these outstanding clerks. Congratulations again to these Clerks who have shown exemplary service and are inspirations to us all.

Photos: Top: (l to r): MAMC Director Holly Thompson, MAMC President Chris Swope, Dana Muscott, and Secretary of State Ruth Johnson.
Middle: (l to r): Chris Swope, Holly Thompson, Chelsea Mikel, and Ruth Johnson.
Bottom: Holly Thompson, Chris Swope, Kathryn Arledge, and Ruth Johnson.

MAMC Website & Social Media

As you read this newsletter to bring all of you up to date on what is happening with the MAMC, know that this is only quarterly that we publish this information. But if you check our website: Michiganclerks.org, this newsletter plus additional information, like the forum and events, is available for you to see. Don’t forget to ‘like’ our facebook page: Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks (MAMC)-OFFICAL SITE, this page was created for you to connect and share information with other Michigan Clerks, in a timely manner, and also can enjoy pictures and comments from other clerks.
Capitol Update

Rep. Lyons Unveils Secure No-Reason AV Legislation

In late June, Chair of the House Elections Committee, Representative Lisa Lyons (R-Alto), introduced legislation to expand absentee voting to more voters. House Bill 4724, referred to the House Elections Committee, would permit registered voters to receive absentee ballots even if the voter doesn't meet one of the six permitted reasons. Under her proposal, a voter may apply in-person at his or her clerk's office and be issued an absentee ballot upon completing the application and showing picture ID. At the first hearing on the bill, Secretary of State Ruth Johnson spoke in strong support of the measure explaining that the provisions would provide additional access for voters to vote absentee while eliminating potential fraud. Additional hearings are expected this fall.

Bill Would Allow Judges to Remove Elected Officials

Senator Rick Jones (R-Eaton County) introduced legislation to permit a governing body to call for the removal of an elected official which would trigger a circuit court hearing. By a two-thirds vote, the governing body of a city, village, township or county could petition the circuit court for the removal of an elected official for one or more of the following:

1) The officer committed misfeasance, malfeasance or nonfeasance in office pertaining to the custody of or accounting for public money; or,

2) The officer failed to obtain or maintain a statutorily required bond prescribed by law.

Should a governing body attain the two-thirds vote necessary, the circuit court judge would be required to hold a hearing not sooner than 30 days or more than 60 days after the officer subject to the hearing receives notice of the governing board's action. After a hearing, the judge shall either dismiss the complaint or issue an order upholding the complaint by declaring the office vacant. Senate Bill 431 was introduced on July 1 and referred to the Senate Elections and Government Reform Committee chaired by Senator Dave Robertson (R-Grand Blanc).

Elimination of Straight-Party Voting Proposed

A bill to eliminate straight-party voting from the ballot has been proposed by Senator Marty Knollenberg (R-Troy). Senate Bill 13 would amend various sections of the Michigan Election Law by striking provisions requiring straight-party voting options. Although the bill has not received a hearing in the Senate Committee on Elections and Government Reform, there was much chatter in Lansing that a hearing was being pushed. There have been two previous attempts to eliminate straight-party voting. In both instances, the laws were challenged when opponents gathered signatures calling for a statewide referendum on the laws. In both instances, the laws were overwhelmingly overturned by the voters.

Governor Signs Bills Eliminating February Elections

Michigan will have one fewer election date beginning in 2017 as a result of legislation signed by Governor Snyder back in June. Public Acts 98 through 101 of 2015 amend the Michigan Election Law by eliminating the annual February election date. The bills overwhelmingly passed both the House and the Senate on their way to the Governor's desk. Although the bills take effect in September 2015, clerks won't see the impact until 2017. The February 2016 date was already moved to March 8, 2016 to accommodate the Presidential preference primary. Existing provisions allowing for a school district

Continued on Page 6
Capitol Update continued from page 5

House Fails in Moving Public Notice Modernization Bill

Proponents of legislation modernizing the State’s legal notice requirements will have to wait until fall after a vote to pass the bill fell short in the House in late June. House Bill 4183, sponsored by Rep. Amanda Price (R-Holland), creates the "Local Government Public Notice Act" by phasing in new legal notice protocols over a ten-year period. The effort is aimed at giving local governments more ways to make legal notices available to the public using modern technology. As many as 250 separate state statutes require cities, townships, school districts, counties and authorities to publish notices informing the public of a variety of activities, including: meetings, meeting minutes, proposed ordinance revisions, assessments, proposed property re-zonings, upcoming elections, voting equipment accuracy testing and much, much more.

House Bill 4183 creates a new Act and phases out requirements to print legal notices in newspapers and reorganizes legal notices into three tiers (A, B and C) with each tier requiring notices varying levels of notice made available on a publicly accessible website for a varying number of days. Notices would be required to be permanently archived to the website for future review. If enacted, the bill would still allow for public notices to be published in a print newspaper if the residents collect signatures to place the question before the electors. If the electorate upholds print newspaper postings, the bill spells out how that is to occur. In those cases, the public notice might need to be published once in a newspaper and simultaneously be published to the local government’s website, instead of twice in the print newspaper. The bill also prescribes alternatives to print newspaper and allows for alternatives to print newspaper, including other media like community public television and radio stations, electronic dissemination, and use of local government web sites.

Since being reported from committee, the bill has been stuck on the House floor. Clerks are encouraged to contact their State Representative to urge support! Contact information can be found at www.house.mi.gov.

A huge THANK YOU to everyone that attended the 2015 Annual Conference on Mackinac Island. We were blessed with amazing weather, inspiring educational sessions and awesome networking opportunities. Although this year’s venue had its logistical challenges from ferry rides and luggage transfers to horse drawn taxis and LOTS of walking, it also provided spectacular views and an opportunity to get to experience life at a slightly slower pace. It gave us a scenic route for the 5K Walk/Run, which was a huge success with a record breaking number participating. The island setting also required us to change up the golf outing a little… ok, maybe a lot. Instead of our regular golf outing, we hosted a glow in the dark team putting scramble, which included holes such as closest to the pin while blindfolded and putting backwards through your legs. The 2015 Conference is one that will be remembered for sure.

We appreciate the feedback we received from those that took the time to complete the overall conference evaluations. We truly value your opinions and we have already reviewed them all, taken notes and are beginning to implement new ideas into the planning of the 2016 Conference. With that said, we hope you will join us at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center in Lansing, June 14-17, 2016 for our Capital Stampede!
Membership: 943 Members

The Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks provides members with the tools needed to serve Michigan communities. This is done through continuous education, by obtaining certification, and performing professionally and ethically as expected of those serving as Clerks.

MAMC constantly provides education via Education Day, Clerking 101, Masters Academy, Michigan Municipal Clerk’s Institute, Conference, and U. P. Clerks Training Day. The Association provides a certification program designed specifically for Michigan Clerks that requires re-certification in order to retain, encouraging Clerks to obtain education and stay abreast of ever changing requirements. And now, the MAMC Board of Directors presented an ethics policy to the membership, which was adopted at June conference.

As a result of adopting Standing Rule – 47; Code of Professional Ethics and Conduct, the annual renewal membership form for 2016 will contain a check box attesting to having read, and that members understand, the policy, and agree to uphold all ethics rules as written. The box must be checked and the application signed in order to obtain membership.

CMMC CORNER

167 MAMC Members Certified!

The following Clerks have recently been awarded the prestigious designation of Certified Michigan Municipal Clerk

Meaghan Bachman
Phommady Annette Boucher
Cynthia A. Bower
Linda L. Browand
Kessie Brummel
Sarah J. Bydalek
Jill Campbell
Daniele Dykens

Stanley T. Grot
Monica Hoffman
Catherine LaFontaine
Jessica A. Marion
Cheryl E. Printz
Jennifer Venema
Elizabeth (Betsy) Wietfeldt

Congratulations! MAMC Board of Directors

Feel the satisfaction. Apply for your CMMC today.

The deadline for applying credits toward CMMC received from graduating the Michigan Municipal Clerk’s Institute prior to the 2015 class is December 31, 2016.

Apply for Membership or CMMC certification at www.michiganclerks.org.

Remember to update your profile. Checks boxes have recently been added to permit members to identify certification levels achieved.
Quarterly Newsletter

Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks
120 N. Washington Sq., Suite 110A
Lansing, MI 48933

Upcoming Events

August 27-28
Board of Directors
Strategic Planning

September 11
U. P. Clerks Training Day
Marquette

2016
March 20-25
MAMC Basic Institute
March 29-31
MAMC Master Academy
Mt. Pleasant
Mt. Pleasant

April 14
Free Education Day
Mt. Pleasant

June 14-17
MAMC Annual Conference
Lansing

2015
August 27-28
Board of Directors
Free Education Day

March 11
Strategic Planning

WWW.MICHIGANCLERKS.ORG