

## From the President



Spring is here, which means that my term as MAMC President is quickly winding down. I will be passing the baton to the next president during the MAMC, 2009 Annual Conference, June 16-19, in Frankenmuth, Michigan. Where did the time go?

I want to highlight some of the goals that are being accomplished and finalized by the 2009 MAMC Board, and thank them for all of their dedication to our membership.

The conference committee, led by Jeff Hawkins and Dan Kasunic is diligently working to finalize the Annual Conference plans and have selected the theme of "Back to Basics". Anyone who is interested in attending can visit the MAMC website for registration information. Our MAMC website, thanks to Nancy Weiss, is better than ever with an expanded resource page and limited access to non-members.

With our poor economy in Michigan, I am pleased to announce we are holding our own with Memberships, thanks to Chris Swope.

MAMC Legislative Committee, led by Evan Hope and the Council of Elec-

tion Officials led by Todd Blake recently testified before the House Ethics and Elections Committee, representing the Michigan Clerks' positions on election proposals and explaining how the election system actually works in Michigan. In addition to our Board's focus on clerk education, we continue to work toward election reform for our state association. With the majority of our legislators being newly elected, it is vital that our message about elections gets delivered to them so that they understand our issues.

Our back to back education courses were well received, thanks to the creative thinking of Joel Hondorp and Laura Caterina. We held two major education events a few days apart. Clerk Institute was held the week of March 8<sup>th</sup>. Two years ago our association decided to run the institute ourselves. We hired Lew and Mary Bender, who have worked so well with us. Clearly, we can say that our institute is run by clerks for clerks. Thinking out of the box we listened to our members' requests and scheduled the first three day Master Acad-

emy. The Master Academy was held on March 17-19. Attendees who completed the three-day session earned nine points toward their CMC or MMC. Attendees who attended for one or two days, earned three points per day. Our by-laws are in great order thanks to Sue Hillebrand. Our Past President, Dana Muscott has been a lifesaver for

*"Being president has been an extremely rewarding experience and I attribute my enjoyment to my talented colleagues and members of the MAMC Board of Directors."*

*Ann Ulrich, MAMC President*

the board with her help and historical knowledge, I can't thank her enough. Thanks to Carolyn Boersma who has done a great job with our board meeting minutes. Last, but not least, I thank our Treasurer Betty Kennedy, who does so much work keeping our financial records in perfect condition. I do not know how this board would ever function without her.

In closing, this will be my final article as MAMC President. Being president has been an extremely rewarding experience and I attribute my enjoyment to my talented colleagues and members of the MAMC Board of Directors. We have accomplished so much together. I will look forward to seeing all of our Michigan Clerks in Frankenmuth.

Ann Ulrich,  
MAMC President

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## Legislative/Council of Election Officials

The Legislative Committee meets each month to discuss legislative issues affecting local clerks. When important issues come up, we keep the membership informed via the MAMC listserv.

The committee met earlier this year to develop legislative priorities. The top priorities for 2009 are:

- In-person "Early Voting"
- No reason AV
- Voter registration at any clerk's office
- ID verification at any clerk's office for first time AV ballot request process

Many bills have already been introduced that touch these issues as well as others on our priority list. It's important to remember that many bills get

introduced every year. Some never make it out of Committee. Some pass the House but never make it out of Senate Committee. Some go to the floor for a vote and go back to Committee. The Legislative Committee and MAMC's lobbyist follow these bills closely to help you make sense of what's happening.

Members of the committee often go to the Capitol to testify on behalf of bills we support. And we will ask for your help when we see a chance of legislation actually moving.

To stay up to date on legislation that has been introduced visit the MAMC web site. On the Legislative Committee page you we'll see a complete bill matrix updated each month. You will also find the complete 2009 MAMC legislative priority list.



We're always interested in your help and input. You can contact Evan Hope, Legislative Committee Chair at [evan.hope@delhitownship.com](mailto:evan.hope@delhitownship.com) or Todd Blake, CEO chair at [tblake@cityoffremont.net](mailto:tblake@cityoffremont.net).

Evan Hope, CMC  
Legislative Committee Chair

Todd Blake, CMC  
CEO Chair

## Clerk of the Year

The ballots for the 2009 City, Village, and Township Clerks of the Year will be mailed the last week in April and must be returned by May 22, 2009 in order to be counted.

Included with the 2009 ballot will be the biographical information for each of the candidates appearing on the ballot. Of the nominated candidates, five in each municipal category

are selected for placement on the ballot. Nominees who are placed on the ballot are selected based upon criteria which evaluates the nominee's years of experience; above average competence in the position; active participation in county, state, national or international associations; a demonstrated interest in improving the profession; a demonstra-

tion of development of personal and professional skills, and a record of contribution to the betterment of their representative community.

Please be sure to cast your vote and return the ballot, as directed, by the May 22, 2009 deadline. The Clerk of the Year awards will be presented at the June Conference in Frankenth.

# MAMC LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

## 2009-2010 PRIORITY LIST

- In-Person “Early Voting”
- No reason AV
- Voter Registration at “any” Clerk’s office
- ID verification at any clerk’s office for first time AV ballot request process
- Accept mail-in voter registrations as in-person if notarized
- Election consolidation
- Electronic Poll Book
- Precinct Delegate reform
- Regulation of voter registration drives
- Reform recount process and fees
- Revise Absentee Ballot Application form to use for all elections in a year
- Pilot project of Super Precincts
- Delivery of election result documents the next day, provided unofficial #'s reported same day
- Change school election scheduling committee requirement of meeting every two years to every four years
- Date synchronization: Precinct consolidation, ballot approval, election inspector confirmation
- City/Twp Canvass requirement removed if County is conducting at the same time
- Reform recall process & fees
- Uncontested local elections (Declare results in no contest on entire ballot)/Write-in filing deadlines would have to be changed

## We need you to make the Call!

Last year many of our top legislative priorities passed the Michigan House of Representatives only to die in Senate Committee. We want more progress this year and we need your help. The MAMC Legislative Committee is asking that you call your State Senator and ask where they stand on In-person Early Voting and No Reason Absentee Voting. We suspect that a majority of the Senate supports these issues or would after talking to their local Clerks. But they’ve never had the chance to vote on this Legislation because it was never brought out of Senate Committee. Please call your State Senator today. Then email or call Evan Hope, Chair of the MAMC Legislative Committee at [evan.hope@delhitownship.com](mailto:evan.hope@delhitownship.com) or 517-268-3007 to let him know where your Senator stands.



# Past Presidents—Nominating Committee

The following have applied for the Board of Directors for MAMC and will be on the ballot at the annual June conference held in Frankenmuth:

**2nd VP** - no application filed (need nomination from the floor—candidate must have two years previous service on the board)

**3rd VP** - Jeffrey Hawkins, Plainfield Charter Township

**Director (City/Village)** 2 positions:

Lisa Hathaway, Grosse Pointe Woods

J. Cherilynn Tallman, City of Ferndale

Holly Thompson, City of Williamston

Betty Kennedy, Village of North Branch

**Director (Township)** 2 positions -

Terry Bennett, Charter Township of Canton

Joel Hondorp, Byron Township

Sue Hillebrand, Charter Township of Northville

**MAMC Nominating Committee:**

Dana Muscott, City of Bay City, Bay County, Chair

Tonni Bartholomew, City of Troy, Oakland County

Sandra Abrams, Commerce Township, Oakland County



Colleen Schwartz, Milford Township, Oakland County

Janet Santos, Bangor Township, Bay County

Terri Kowal, Shelby Township, Macomb County

## Treasurer

### Bank Statement

Beginning Balance	\$ 82,323.53	Ending Balance	
Deposits/Credits	46,223.00	*Main Bank Account	127,510.03
Interest	79.24	*Investment Account	37,000.00
Withdrawals	1,115.74	Total Funds	\$164,510.03

## Achievement Certified Municipal Clerks—Master Municipal Clerks

Congratulations are in order to the latest hard-working, dedicated clerks and deputy clerks who have achieved the designation of Certified Municipal Clerk and Master Municipal Clerk.

Sherri Sayles, CMC, Chief Deputy Clerk, County of Ottawa

Leanne Johnson, CMC, Deputy Clerk, City of Wyoming

Virginia Vander Roest, CMC, Deputy Clerk, City of Kalamazoo

Ruth Ann Volkmer, CMC, City of Coldwater

Penny Albitus, CMC, City of Garden City

Kirsten R. Vogel, MMC, City Clerk, City of Springfield



# Conference

## MAMC 2009 EDUCATION CONFERENCE

JUNE 16-19, 2009

“BASIC TRAINING AND BEYOND”



### BAVARIAN INN AND LODGE CONFERENCE CENTER

In-depth planning continues for the 2009 MAMC Annual Education Conference scheduled for Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup> through Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup> at the Bavarian Inn Lodge & Conference Center in Frankenmuth, Michigan. As is our goal every year, the Conference Committee hopes to provide a wide range of educational opportunities in an environment that promotes socialization, networking and an enjoyable learning experience. This year's conference will be in the world's most fun hotel where it's always 85 degrees and 100% fun! There is seven acres of fun at the Bavarian Inn Lodge! They have the water park, the Midwest's largest arcade, the world's only Bavarian themed 18 hole mini golf course, Willy the Dragon, pretzel rolling classes, family karaoke and MUCH MORE! Enjoy live entertainment, indoor water park with five indoor pools and three whirlpools for overnight guests at the Lodge (there's even one pool and whirlpool reserved especially for adults without children), a gigantic Family Fun Center, shopping, great food, beer and wine tasting, hands-on experience packages, tours, riverboat cruises, arcades, and plenty of wide open spaces to just chill out.

Pre-conference offerings on Tuesday, June 16 include:

**Masters Class:** Core Attitudes for Success: Core attitudes and behaviors needed by professionals on-the-grow and Becoming a Person of Influence: Our ability to influence and move people to action depends on the trust and rapport we develop and how well we target our message; **or**

**Clerking 101:** This class provides an overview of the duties and responsibilities of municipal clerks. It will provide the “basic clerking skills”, essential information for new clerks and a great refresher for experienced clerks.

Each of these additional **full-day classes** is offered for an **extra fee**. Class fees include instruction, materials, breaks and lunch!

As in the past, we will hear some great speakers like State Bureau of Elections Director Chris Thomas, MAMC President Ann Ulrich and Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land. Four special guest speakers will help to make our week of education the most that it can be. We have also scheduled the annual Clerk of the Year Dinner on Wednesday evening, with awards being presented by Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land, followed by the President's “Hawaiian Themed” Dinner on Thursday night with some very special entertainment planned!!!

Some of the other conference activities will include: 4<sup>th</sup> Annual 5K Fun Run / Walk; MAMC Board of Directors election; “Make your Vendor VOTE Count”; 10<sup>th</sup> Annual MAMC Golf Outing; Silent Auction; new and improved Hospitality Suite; Vendor Displays; Door Prizes and of course education and networking.

#### Activities & Amenities

Stroll through 13 acres of beautiful riverfront

Listen to the hoofbeats of horse-drawn carriages

Admire architectural gems like our Glockenspiel and authentic wooden covered bridge

Savor our world-famous meals - family-style chicken dinners and authentic German dishes

Sample Michigan's largest selection of German beers

Enjoy seven acres of family fun at the Bavarian Inn Lodge - including our indoor water park with five indoor pools and three whirlpools

Find the perfect gift in over 40 shops and boutiques



The conference brochure will be mailed to all clerks, members and non-members, detailing educational classes and conference events that will be offered this year. If you don't receive your brochure by mid to late April, please visit the MAMC website at [www.michiganclerks.org](http://www.michiganclerks.org) and click on the “Conference” section for printable forms and brochures

If you have any questions or comments regarding the Conference, please do not hesitate to contact us: Jeff Hawkins - Chair, [hawkinsj@plainfieldchartertp.org](mailto:hawkinsj@plainfieldchartertp.org) (616) 364-8466 or Dan Kasunic - Co-Chair, [kasunicd@ci.kentwood.mi.us](mailto:kasunicd@ci.kentwood.mi.us) (616) 554-0730.



# Education

It has been an exciting spring for the Education Committee. The MAMC Institute was fantastic. Over 90 attended and comments were very favorable. This was the third year at Central Michigan. If you have not attended the Institute, I highly encourage you to attend next year.

We are now finishing scheduling the Education portion of the Annual Conference. We will be offering a wide range of educational opportunities.

Stay tuned for the fall Annual Education Day/Master's Class to be held in September.



The three day Master's Academy was also very successful. Over 80 participated and came away with valuable information.

Joel Hondorp  
Education Chair



*2009 MICHIGAN MUNICIPAL  
CLERKS INSTITUTE*



*2009 Master Academy*



# IIMC—Region V Update



Hi everyone.

The Region V conference held in Columbus last month was a huge success and Michigan was well represented by your President, Ann Ulrich, and a few other clerks. I know travel out of state is hard these days. The Ohio Clerks did a great job putting the conference together; there were two great classes – both worth IIMC education points – and Menopause, the Musical was hysterical! Well, at least for all the women going through the “change”!! But then, I even saw some of the men laughing too! It is Michigan’s turn to host the Region V meeting next. A date has not been set as we are still kicking around the best time to have this. If you have any preference of the time of month or time of year, please let me know. There just doesn’t seem to be a good time to bring all 5 states together, while not interfering with each state’s institute and conference times, the states League (MTA) meetings, etc. So any ideas, please share!

Education seems to be the main focus of IIMC these days, and we are still making changes and forging ahead to better the IIMC education program. You will be hearing about several more changes in the next couple of weeks. Stay tuned...they are all for the better and they will all make it easier for us to achieve our CMC and MMC certifications!

CHICAGO, 2009. The IIMC conference will be held during the week of May 19<sup>th</sup> in Chicago. If you have ANY interest at all in attending an IIMC International Conference, **THIS IS THE ONE TO ATTEND!** For many reasons...such as:

- No airfare costs. We can all drive! (Share the ride with several and get there for \$10!)
- There will not be a conference closer to Michigan for many years to come
- As Region V members, we get an automatic \$50.00 discount off the registration fee
- If you have NEVER attended a conference before, you get another \$50 discount!
- With taxes, the rooms are about \$160 per night. Share a room and that’s only \$80!!
- **THE BEST NEWS:** Attending the conference earns you \*8\* Education Points towards your certification – your CMC or MMC! This is huge! 8 points would cost you at least \$300 if you attended classes here in Michigan. So here is a great way to earn 8 points without paying any extra dollars. Again, **THIS IS HUGE!!!!**

Each of you should experience an international conference at least once! They are incredible! Over the last few years, they have had some of the best speakers I have ever heard. While there are a number of incredible break-out sessions, they also bring the entire group together on several occasions for one main speaker...who in the past have been tremendous. I guarantee you will become friends with at least one clerk from another state...if not many...and I hope like me, they will become life-long friends and peers. It is really quite the thing! So...make your plans. Beg your council’s, managers, and boards for funding. Throw in some of your own cash if you need to. You will not regret it. The IIMC will be extending the early-bird discount deadline so its not too late, but get your registration in today! I personally guarantee you a good, educational and incredible time! Any questions, give me call or email.

Kathy Dornan  
Director  
IIMC Region V

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Term Expires: 2009

The MAMC Board of directors usually 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 website at [www.michiganclerks.org](http://www.michiganclerks.org)



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Check the Website  
[www.michiganclerks.org](http://www.michiganclerks.org)

## MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPAL CLERKS

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### MISSION STATEMENT

*The purpose of the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks Board of Directors shall be to promote, enhance, and encourage the professional development and standing of municipal clerks through cooperation, communication, education and training by utilizing seminars, institutes and meetings; to promote and encourage improvement of methods and procedures of duties performed by clerks; and to address legislative matters relating to the municipal clerks' responsibilities.*

## Reminders

- If you haven't done so, be sure to send in your membership renewal and applicable membership fee.
- If you are thinking about joining the organization for the first time, we cordially invite you to do so. It is not too late to join and participate in the June conference.
- Don't forget to register for the Annual Education Conference, June in Frankenmuth.
- Join us for the Annual Golf Outing or Walk/Run. Check for details in your conference brochure.
- Check the MAMC Website often for current information, calendar of events, and resources.
- Share your comments with the MAMC Board of Directors at [www.michiganclerks.org](http://www.michiganclerks.org)

### SPECIAL TASTE OF SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY

The Tennessee Association of Municipal Clerks and Records (TAMCAR) have created a special southern hospitality cookbook to raise funds to support the 2011 IIMC Conference to be held in Nashville, Tennessee.

This cookbook is loaded with mouth watering southern cooking. It has everything from Billie's Pumpkin Dip to Danno's Super Award Winning Chili. Ever tried Levon's Mashed Potato Casserole? Or Heather's Chicken Divan? What about Mawmaw's Cornbread Dressing? We haven't even talked about the southern desserts!

To order your own copy of this mouthwatering cookbook please fill out the order form below.

Happy Cooking!

[www.tamcar.org](http://www.tamcar.org)

### ORDER FORM:

Please send me copies of Special Tastes of Southern Hospitality at \$10.00 per copy and \$2.00 for shipping and handling per book. Enclosed is my check or money order for \$\_\_\_\_\_

Mail Books To:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Send your order to:

Tennessee Association of Municipal Clerks  
and Records (TAMCAR)

11408 Municipal Center Drive, Farragut, TN 37934