Thank you fellow clerks for belonging to the MAMC, and it is my honor to serve you as President, of which I do not take lightly. I have heard from some of you regarding policies, invites and suggestions, and I thank you for your input.

With regards to the Primary Election and some of the problems various clerks encountered, it reflects in a spotlight that can put us in an unfavorable light, through no fault of our own, but through misunderstanding or miscommunication. That is why I strongly urge everyone to attend as many training sessions that the association and the State has available. With that being said, the board began our Strategic Planning earlier than in the past with the propose of achieving the goals set in prior years that needed to be flushed out with specific direction. We will be taking an in-depth look into educational needs and review what can be done through technology and how we will aid in the development of newly elected clerks as they take their office. I realize that unless you benefit from belonging to an association then it may not be worth your time. The entire board wants to achieve your individual goals, whether it is networking, educational or getting that certification.

As a last note, the theme of the conference for this year, that has the conference committee already hard at work, will be GAME SHOWS. We are always trying to make it fun as we learn and some say I look a little like Alex Trebec (very little).
New Law Restricts Use of Clerk Names on AV Materials

The Governor recently signed legislation restricting an election official’s name from appearing on certain election-related materials. Public Act 280 of 2012 prohibits the name of an appointed or elected elections official from appearing on “election-related” materials. The new Act defines election-related materials as:
- Any material provided with an AV ballot;
- AV ballot instructions;
- An envelope used to mail to an AV ballot;
- An AV ballot return envelope.

A provision negotiated by GCSI permits clerks to use existing materials that may not be in conformance with the Act but were ordered prior to the effective date of the Act. Under this provision, existing supplies could be used until they are exhausted in any election where the clerk does not also appear on the ballot as a candidate. The bill was not granted immediate effect and will take place 90 days sine die, which will be roughly April of 2013.

Senate to Move on MAMC Priorities this Fall

Bills introduced on behalf of the MAMC are poised to be taken up later this year in the Senate Local Government and Elections Committee. In conversations with the Chairman and his committee aides, we can look forward to hearings on the following MAMC priorities:

- **Filing Deadline Uniformity Bills:** House Bills 4907 and HBs 4909-4912, introduced by Reps. Sharon Tyler (R-Niles), Marty Knollenberg (R-Troy), Ken Horn (R-Frankenmuth) and Rep. Cindy Denby (R-Fowlerville) amend the Michigan Election Code and other various Acts to establish uniform filing deadline for a variety of local ballot questions to the twelfth Tuesday before the election. The bills all overwhelmingly passed the House and were referred to the Senate Local Government and Elections Committee where a hearing was held in early June. We expect the bills to be taken up in the Senate after the election.

- **Non-Partisan Ballot Placement:** House Bill 5127, introduced by Rep. Ed McBroom (R-Vulcan), reorders the ballot placement on the non-partisan portion of the ballot to place community college districts and intermediate school districts to above local school districts. The bill passed the House 90-16 and was referred to the Senate Local Government and Elections Committee.

House Committee Takes Shot at Limiting Millage Election Dates

Legislation to restrict all local millage elections to the August or November election dates was scuttled in committee after it was apparent that the bill lacked the necessary votes to move it forward. Sponsored by Rep. Marty Knollenberg (R-Troy), the bill as introduced would have restricted all millage elections to the even-year November election date. That bill was met with strong opposition from both the MAMC and the MACC. Organizations representing schools and local governments also opposed the bill. At this point, the bill appears dead for the session but could certainly be resurrected after the election during the lame duck session.

Senate Committee Takes Testimony on Elections Bills

The Senate Local Government and Elections Committee took testimony on two bills supported by the MAMC Legislative Committee. Both bills were introduced by Senator Goeff Hansen (R-Hart). Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope spoke on behalf of the MAMC supporting both bills.

- **Senate Bill 810** amends the Michigan Election Law to permit cities, by resolution, to move their primary and general election dates to the even-year August and November election dates. Additionally, the bill eliminates the September election date and prescribes the process for those jurisdictions holding September elections to move to the even November election. This would eliminate the September election for approximately 70 jurisdictions across the state.

- **Senate Bill 811** amends the General Law Village Act to remove various references to the September election date.
2013 Conference is in the Game Planning!

We’ve already begun planning a great educational conference for you next summer! There will be some exciting changes to the scheduling and events giving you more time to explore Frankenmuth while still getting the additional clerking education that you want and need. Yes, that’s right, we will be in Frankenmuth at the Bavarian Inn & Hotel once again for our annual conference! Mark your calendars now for June 18th through the 21st.

Our new President, Dan Kasunic, has given us a television game show theme to work with that should be a lot of fun and laughs for all. Thank you to Jennifer Christian, Caledonia Charter Township Clerk, who thought of the tag line for the conference....the final answer is:

The Clerk Is Right!

We all know this is true!! So, don’t forget to bring those out of the ordinary items that you might have for the Clerk Is Right game...you never know when you might be asked if you have one!!! We’ll scatter in the game theme wherever we can to make your time at conference enjoyable including a Vendor Show Case Showdown on Wednesday night where you can enter to win a FREE MAMC Conference Registration for 2014!

For now just watch your inboxes for a fun survey that will come out some time in December via Survey Monkey that will challenge your thoughts for answers we need to a fun Clerking Feud game that we’re planning.

Financial Report

Betty Kennedy, MMC
Village of North Branch
Treasurer

Financial Report for September 2012

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Sheri Kesterke of Michigan Named As The NNA’s 2012 Notary Of The Year
Berrien Springs Village Clerk Honored For Her Commitment To Public And Community Service

LOS ANGELES, June 19, 2012 – The National Notary Association has named Sheri Kesterke of Berrien Springs Village, Michigan, as its 2012 Notary of the Year for her exceptional standards of professionalism and integrity and lifelong dedication to helping those in need.

Kesterke, who serves as Village Clerk for Berrien Springs, was selected from among five finalists from across the United States during the National Notary Association’s 2012 Conference at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina on June 5. NNA President and CEO Thomas Heymann praised Kesterke for her efforts to raise awareness of Notary best practices among public officials in her state, along with making her own notarial services available to members of her community in need at any time in the event of emergencies. “Sheri’s achievements stand as an inspiring model for Notaries everywhere,” Heymann said.

“I want to thank the NNA for this honor,” Kesterke said. “They help so many Notaries understand how to do their jobs better. If it weren’t for the Association, I would never have received any training. I am grateful to be part of this community. I wish I could give a little part of this honor to all the Notaries here because they all deserve it.”

In addition to the award, the National Notary Foundation has endowed a $1,000 scholarship on Kesterke’s behalf that will be presented to the educational institution of her choice.

The Notary of the Year award is given annually to the Notary Public whose highly dedicated, exemplary and ethical service to the community have made outstanding contributions to the Notary office. Each year, the NNA chooses from a pool of nominees who best exemplify the ideals of integrity, impartiality, competence, selflessness and public service in the critical role of protecting document signers from ID theft and document fraud.

About the National Notary Association
Established in 1957, the National Notary Association (NNA) is the nation’s foremost professional member organization serving the communities of Notaries in every state. The non-profit NNA is dedicated to educating, serving, and advocating for the 4.8 million Notaries in the U.S. by imparting knowledge and understanding, promoting a positive public perception of the office, and bolstering consumer protection through best practices. The Association’s professional programs, services, and model legislation help Notaries advance their careers and serve the American public with the highest level of professionalism and ethics. To learn more, visit us at NationalNotary.org.
“The Biggest Loser”, Pete Thomas, Visits Oakland County Clerks Association

Pete Thomas, NBC’s “The Biggest Loser” Season 2 At-Home Winner visited the Oakland County Clerks Association during their Fall Quarterly Meeting.

Pete lost 83 pounds during his 62 days at the “ranch” and lost 102 pounds on his own after being voted off the show. At the end of the season he lost the highest percentage of weight among those voted off the show, winning the grand prize.

Pete’s dynamic presentation included stories from his journey on “The Biggest Loser” and the importance of setting SMART goals. He encouraged everyone to set life-based goals, not event-based goals. Life-based goals make more of an impact as your goal is overall and will be life-changing - not based on one specific event (such as class reunion or wedding).

The Oakland County Clerks Association would like to thank Pete Thomas for his motivational presentation. Visit www.PeteThomas.com for additional information about Pete and his journey.

Event Calendar

2013

January 9
Call for Nominations for Clerk of the Year

February 12
Free Education Day
Lansing Center

March 5
2013 Clerk of the Year Nominations Due

March 12 - 14
MAMC Master Academy
Comfort Inn Hotel and Conference Center
Mount Pleasant

March 17 - 22
MMCI Institute
Comfort Inn Hotel and Conference Center
Mount Pleasant

May 19 - 23
International Institute of Municipal Clerks
Annual Conference
Atlantic City, New Jersey

June 17
Clerking 101 or Masters Class
Bavarian Inn
Frankenmuth

June 18 - 21
MAMC Annual Conference
Bavarian Inn
Frankenmuth