



# Wings

A PUBLICATION OF THE  
CITY CLERKS AND MUNICIPAL FINANCE OFFICERS OF KANSAS

Volume 2, No. 1

January 1989

"Lend me the stone  
solid strength of the past  
And I will lend you wings  
to the future."

Robert Jeffers

## EDITOR'S COMMENTS:

SUCCESS IS A JOURNEY,  
NOT A DESTINATION.

I read that line the other day, and it really made an impact on me. How many people do you know who have said... If I had money, I'd be a success... If I had that job, I'd be a success... If I lived in a house like that, I'd be a success. I have known many. I've probably even said those things, at times. Haven't we all looked to the future, and said some-day...

It is a brand new year, a new slate to fill with our dreams and hopes and lives. Let's start off that year by realizing that all of us are already successful. We each have fulfilling jobs, and families, and friends. We are already on that journey called "success".

Don't keep looking for that greener grass or that pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Enjoy today, live it to the fullest, work your hardest, and give your very best. The rest will come on it's own.

Think about it.  
Debbie Durler, Editor

## MARCH CLERK'S MEETING

Plans are well underway for the Annual Clerk's School scheduled for March 8th, 9th and 10th, 1989. There have been some changes made in the banquet arrangements this year. The cost of the banquet meal has been included in the school registration so that we will get a better turn out. It will also be held at the Holiday Inn this year, so that you won't have to get out and look for your meal.

Barbara Young, President-Elect, says that everyone should plan on a BIG surprise at the Banquet this year, and that spouses and guests are welcome to join in the fun.

## "SMILES"

Smiles is the longest word in the world - there is a mile between the first and last letters of the word.

He smiled-and his home was a place of happiness.

He smiled-and his business clients and callers spoke well of him, and business increased.

He smiled-and all who entered his office door were pleased to be greeted as friend and equal.

He smiled-and followed the smile with a brotherly handclasp; and those who were discouraged and downcast went out and took a new grip on life and their work.

He smiled-and while the years rolled on, he grew younger, because-he smiled.

-Hilts, Inc.

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## REGION 7 MEETING

The Region VII Meeting will be held on January 20th and 21st, at the Hilton Airport Plaza in Kansas City, Missouri. There will be a hospitality room on Friday night, and the meeting will last all day on Saturday.

Hotel rates are \$50.00 for a single or double, \$65.00 for a triple, and \$80.00 for a quad. Reservations may be made by calling 1-800-525-6322.

The alternate weather dates are February 17th and 18th. Please contact Tom Roberts or Barbara Young for more information.

## "WINGS"

EDITOR

### Officer and Board Reports Calendar, Advertising

Debbie Durler, 316-793-7881  
Box 1168, Great Bend, 67530

### NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

#### What's Going On?

Joyce Clark, 913-798-2229  
Box 419, Ness City, 67560

#### Learn A Little

Dan Pickett, 913-754-3821  
Box 555, Quinter, 67562

#### Regional News

Billie Ryan, 316-549-3208  
Box 367, St. John 67576

#### Getting To Know You Committee Reports

Debbie Wendt, 913-258-2271  
Box 31, Herington, 67449

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Kansas City, 913-573-5000

Vice President Barbara Young  
Merriam, 913-722-3330

Secretary/Treasurer Jean Krehbiel  
Hesston, 316-327-4412

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Paula Shapland  
Ulysses, 316-356-4600

William Goering  
McPherson, 316-241-6300

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It always hits me all of a sudden when I start dating letters in December. Could 1988 be gone so soon? We, as city clerks and finance officers, often get caught up in the frantic pace of our jobs and everyday lifestyle. The League of Kansas Municipalities meeting in October, the Institute along with national and local elections in November have all come and went. Now the holiday season is upon us and every day the countdown to Christmas goes on.

Our semi-annual association meeting, held during the League conference, was believed to be the most well attended Fall meeting we have ever had. All committees reported on their activities and a consensus was reached on a new association banner which will be displayed at our meeting in March. We held our first association breakfast and it was quite successful and bears repeating. With memberships and attendance reaching all-time highs, you can almost feel our organization growing. I'd like to encourage those of you who haven't already done so to contact Barbara Young, Vice President, and volunteer your services on a committee. You can make a difference. We need your help to reach our potential and to improve upon what we have already accomplished.

The holiday season this year, to me personally, is bittersweet. I'm sure some of you read about the death of Jack Reardon, who had brilliantly served Kansas City for 12 years as Mayor and recently won election as County Commissioner. Jack received a heart transplant in February of 1987 and died at the age of 45, the day after Thanksgiving. Active with the League of Kansas Municipalities, many of you may have met him or heard him speak. Jack Reardon was a rare individual who combined the qualities of integrity, eloquence, and vision. All Kansans have lost a tremendous leader and I have lost a friend.

Let his passing remind us to be the best that we can be so that we can make our mark in the communities we serve.

Happy Holidays to all. Please feel free to contact me if I can assist you in any way. It's been a very exciting year and I trust my last three months in office will be rewarding and fruitful.

Tom Roberts, President

## "WINGS"

### PUBLICATION DATES AND DEADLINES

"Wings" will be published in July, October, January and April. Anyone wishing to submit information should do so by the 10th of the month preceding publication.

## CITY CLERK OF OAKLEY DIES

\*\*\*Peggi Pearson started working for the City of Oakley on August 18, 1975, and became the City Clerk on June 11, 1978. Her obituary, as it appeared in the newspaper, follows.

### PEGGI LEA PEARSON

Peggi Lea Pearson, 52, died Saturday, December 31 at HCA Wesley Medical Center, Wichita. She died as a result of an auto accident on December 22.

She was born June 28, 1936, in Oakley to Ray W. and Frances (Eggleston) Arie Sr. She married David P. Leavitt on July 6, 1956, at Oakley. He died September 25, 1977. She married Robert E. Pearson on October 11, 1980. He died February 8, 1987. She was a member of the VFW Auxiliary and the Eagles' Lodge, Oakley. She was the Oakley City Clerk.

Survivors include, her mother, Frances McGuire, Oakley; four sons, Michael Leavitt, Wakeeney, Thomas Leavitt, Colby, David Leavitt, Wichita, and Matthew Leavitt, Garden City; two daughters, Christi Leavitt and Patricia Leavitt, both of Oakley; a stepdaughter, Tambria Gee, Oakley; two brothers, Floyd Arie, Wichita, and Ray Arie, Lakin; a sister, Billy Faye Wilson, Denver; and four grandchildren and a step grandchild.

The family suggests contributions to a memorial, in care of Koster Funeral Home, to be named later.

\*\*\*\*\*

You can always tell when people are working on their income tax. They calmly clean off the dining-room table, make neat stacks of all their canceled checks and receipts, sharpen a half-dozen pencils, open the book of instructions, and set to work. Then an hour later they stand up, stretch their arms, and kick the cat.

\*\*\*\*\*

The most difficult times in my life have been my greatest experiences.

-Susan Choate

## CALENDAR

January 20-21, 1989  
IIMC Region VII Meeting, Hilton Airport Plaza, Kansas City, MO.

March 8-10, 1989  
Annual CCMFO School, Lawrence Holidaye.

May 21-25, 1989  
IIMC Annual Conference, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

September 14-15, 1989  
IIMC Advanced Academy, McPherson.

# WHAT'S GOING ON?

## NEWS ABOUT OUR MEMBERS...

### NEW CMC'S

\*\*\*The International Institute of Municipal Clerks is devoted to advancing the professionalization of the office of Municipal Clerk and improving the administration and efficiency of government.

The unique Certification Program of the IIMC was launched in 1970, climaxing a decade of planning. The program aids municipal clerks and deputy clerks in improving their job performance and recognizes the professionalization of the Municipal Clerk's office. Completion of a recognized career development institute or a baccalaureate degree in public administration or related field, responsible experience in local government, and participation in conferences, meetings, and educational seminars are required to achieve this prestigious Certified Municipal Clerk designation. Qualifications of applicants are reviewed and approved by the IIMC Certification Committee.

\*\*\*\*\*

Billie R. Ryan, City Administrator/City Clerk of St. John, has been awarded the designation of "Certified Municipal Clerk" (CMC) from the IIMC for achieving its high educational, experience, and service requirements.

Ms. Ryan has been City Administrator/City Clerk since January 1988. Previously, she was Assistant City Clerk from 1982 to 1983, and City Clerk from 1983 to 1988.

She completed the Municipal Clerks Institute sponsored by the University of Kansas, which is a three-year program which provides over 100 contact hours of courses in the field. In addition, she attended Barton County Community College, and meetings and workshops relating to her position.

Ms. Ryan is a member of the Kansas Association of City Management (serving on the "Wings" newsletter committee), the City Clerks and Municipal Finance Officers Association of Kansas, IIMC, Martha Rebekah Lodge #425-100F, and member and treasurer of the St. John Business and Professional Women.

Ms. Ryan is the first City Clerk of St. John to be certified.

\*\*\*\*\*

Helen M. Beashore, City Clerk of Edwardsville, has been awarded the designation of "Certified Municipal Clerk" (CMC) from the IIMC for achieving its high educational, experience, and service requirements.

Ms. Beashore became the first full-time City Clerk for Edwardsville in 1978, having been appointed Municipal Court Clerk in 1976, a position that she still holds today.

She completed the Municipal Clerks Institute sponsored by the University of Kansas, and a number of classes at Kansas City Community College.

Ms. Beashore is a member of the City Clerks and Municipal Finance Officers Association of Kansas (serving on the Education Committee), a Charter Member of the Kansas Association for Court Management, and the IIMC. She is also a member of the Edwardsville United Methodist Church, the Western Wyandott Citizens Advisory Council, board member of the Special Programs in Creative Education, and the Bonner Springs/Edwardsville Area Singles.

\*\*\*\*\*

Paula Holle, City Clerk of Marysville, has been awarded the designation of "Certified Municipal Clerk" (CMC) from the IIMC for achieving its high educational experience and service requirements.

Ms. Holle joined the City in 1981, and was appointed City Clerk of Marysville in 1985. Previously she held administrative positions for nine years in Federal Civil Service.

She completed the Municipal Clerks Institute, and is currently enrolled in the Home Study Course in Supervisory Management offered by Michigan State University.

Ms. Holle is a member of the CCMFO and the IIMC. She is also a member of the Marysville Business and Professional Women's Organization; Job Training Partnership Act Advisory Committee; Toastmasters; American Legion Auxiliary; Marshall County Optimist Club Board of Directors; and is the Religious Education Coordinator for St. Gregory's Catholic Church.

### THE BUCK STOPS AT MCPHERSON CITY HALL

Talk about an increase, McPherson took the cake this year with an 80% increase in their sewer utility rates. The average rate went from \$5.00 to \$9.00.

To be fair, the feds are mandating a \$3,000,000 re-construction of their waste-water treatment plant, so they didn't have much choice.

Bill Goering says that the last few weeks have not been pleasant ones, and that he has learned a few new words since the citizens starting calling in to complain.

### NEW AAE

\*\*\*The IIMC Academy for Advanced Education is the professional body of municipal clerks who have continued their high level of educational achievement beyond the attainment of the prestigious Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) Award.

In order to become a member of the Academy a person must attain IIMC Certification (CMC), attend a minimum of 36 hours of graduate courses at an IIMC-recognized municipal clerks institute or complete similar educational programs relating to the responsibilities of the municipal clerks office. Specific professional participation must be achieved, such as leadership in national and state associations, attendance at seminars and conferences, and professional writings and accomplishments.

\*\*\*\*\*

Twila Howard, CMC/AAE, City Clerk of Dighton, has been accepted into the IIMC Academy for Advanced Education of Municipal Clerks.

Ms. Howard has been City Clerk of Dighton since January 1978. She was previously employed for twelve years with the Dighton Livestock Auction.

She received her CMC Award in June 1985, after completing the three-year municipal clerks institute program sponsored by the University of Kansas. Continuing her professional education she has completed five Advanced Academy Programs sponsored by the University of Kansas, Computer Basics (Garden City Community College), three Budget Workshop Seminars (State of Kansas), and a Public Relations and Accounting Workshop (Kansas Municipal Utilities, Inc.).

Ms. Howard is a member of the City Clerks and Municipal Finance Officers Association of Kansas, and has been a member of IIMC since 1978. She is active in community affairs including Dighton Booster Club, Chamber of Commerce, PRIDE Committee, Lane County Cemetery District, and First Christian Church of Dighton.

### DR. GOERING JOINS LEAGUE BOARD

Our very own Dr. Bill Goering, Administrator/Clerk for the City of McPherson, is now an official member of the League of Kansas Municipalities Board of Directors. With his knowledge and experience we know that he will represent us very well. Besides, if that doesn't work, he is very good at baffling with bull.

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU

"Wings" is featuring CCMFO members selected at random. This issue features Robert Ackerman, City Clerk of Seneca; Margaret Agee, City Clerk of Belle Plaine; Sharon Baxter, City Clerk of Little River; and Sherrill K. Orr, City Clerk of Conway Springs. We hope that this article will help you get to know them better.

MARGARET L. AGEE, CMC, has held the office of City Clerk of Belle Plaine for twelve years. Prior to that, she was self-employed for five years, an accountant for two years, and worked as an assistant in the City Clerk's Office and was Utility Clerk and Cashier for the City of Wellington for three years. Margaret is a graduate of the City Clerk's Institute, received her CMC designation in 1979, and is currently serving on the CCMFO Board of Directors.

She was born in Wellington, and has lived in Wichita, several cities in Oklahoma, and spent 1-1/2 years in Ecuador, South America. Margaret and her husband Merritt, who is retired, have four children - Marilyn, 34; Miles, 31; Marie, 29; and Merritt, 23. She is a member of the United Methodist Church where she enjoys singing in the choir and serving on the Church Board, and she also serves as Sec/Treas of a Boy Scout Troop where her husband is Assistant Scoutmaster. She is a member of the Eastern Star and helped organize the Order of Rainbow Girls in Belle Plaine and served as Mother Advisor of this group for several years.



Margaret says that she is extremely proud of her husband of 35 years, her four children and their spouses, and her six grandchildren. She truly enjoys her work as City Clerk and hopes to be able to continue in this capacity for several more years.



SHARON S. BAXTER is presently the City Clerk of Little River, a position she has held for a little over three years. Sharon was a cosmetologist from 1962 to 1969, a full-time homemaker from 1969-1975, a part-time assistant to the City Clerk of Little River and part-time mail clerk for the U.S. Postal Service from 1975 to 1980, an office manager and bookkeeper for a grain company from 1980 to 1982, and she worked with arts and crafts from and has one year remaining of Certification Institute.

Sharon was born and raised in Larned, where she graduated from high school. She is also a licensed cosmetologist, a licensed realtor, and has taken computer courses. Sharon is married and her husband Bill is a field operator for Enron. She has two sons - Todd, 24, and Aaron, 19, two stepsons - Jamie, 27, and William, 26, and three grandchildren. Sharon has also resided in Pratt and Lyons before moving to Little River in 1964. She is a member of the Congregational Church and Garden Club, and served as treasurer for the Little River Volunteer Fire Department and Fireman's Relief Association for 20 years.

Her hobbies include crocheting, knitting, wood carving, piano, guitar, refinishing furniture, and winter time wild bird feeding. Sharon says that the encouragement from her husband, family, and council has helped her achieve her goals.

ROBERT ACKERMAN has been the City Clerk of Seneca for almost 20 years. Prior to becoming clerk, he owned and operated a restaurant in Hiawatha from 1965 to 1967 and sold Prudential insurance in Seneca from 1967 to 1969. He was born in Sabetha and raised on a dairy farm southwest of Sabetha. Robert attended KSU and has a B.S. degree in restaurant management. His wife,

Alma, is a registered nurse and they have two children - a married daughter Janet, age 26, and a son Doug, age 22.

Robert was involved with 4-H from 1948 through 1984 and served as a community and project leader for over 10 years. He is a member of the Congregational UCC Church and the Masonic Lodge. He also was on the CCMFO Board of Directors from 1985 through 1988.

Robert and his wife have collected antiques for nearly 30 years and get lots of enjoyment from their 14 room Victorian home that was built in 1892. They have recently begun collecting antique toys. Robert enjoys restoring toys, doing stained glass windows, wood carving, and furniture restoration.

SHERRILL K. ORR has served as City Clerk of Conway Springs since March of 1980. She was born in Medicine Lodge, and has also lived in Emporia, Wichita and Syracuse before moving to Conway Springs in 1977.

She and her husband Trey, who is a high school counselor and farmer, have two sons - Skip, 14, and Matthew, 5. Sherrill is a member of CCMFO, ILMC, Business and Professional Women, VFW Auxiliary, Eastern Star, Sumner County Real Estate Association, Conway Springs Fire Department, Conway Springs Arena Club, and is a charter member of the Conway Springs Museum Association. She received a five-year "dedicated service" award from the City of Conway Springs. Sherrill has attended Pratt JUCO and WSU and has sold real estate privately since 1978.

The Orrs took over the family farm at Medicine Lodge in 1984. In 1986 they moved into a new home where they keep two team roping horses and one cutting horse. Sherrill is the only employee in City Hall, and she also reads water meters, administers the water company, cemetery, and zoning regulations, along with other Clerk's duties.



## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

The response to the Membership Drive has been greater this year than ever before. Out of 627 cities in Kansas, we now have a total of 436 members who have paid their dues to the Association. 44 are from first class cities, 105 are from second class cities, and 287 are from third class cities.

This can only mean that the City Clerks and Municipal Finance Officers Association of Kansas is providing what city clerks and finance officers feel they need in the way of updated information, training and meetings. The chance to get acquainted with each other across the State of Kansas is also one of the highlights of membership.

We thank you for your response to the Membership Drive and look forward to rewarding times together. See all of you at our March meeting.

Patty Brooner, Chairman

## LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE NEWS

The new legislative session begins in January, and this year the CCMFO plans to be heard. Chairman Bill Goering is working on a draft of a bill setting out education requirements and due process for City Clerks. The Board of Directors agreed that this is an important issue which needs to be addressed.

If any of you have any special concerns or interests that you would like to have addressed, please contact:

Bill Goering, Administrator/Clerk  
PO Box 1008  
McPherson, KS 67460-1008

\*\*\*\*\*

I've never been lucky. Remember when millions of people were looking up and saying, "Is it a bird? Is it a plane? It's Superman." Every time I looked up - it was a bird.

## NON-MEMBER CITIES

The City Clerk's and Municipal Finance Officer's Association is still growing. As of December 1st, we have 436 members, which is an all time high. Unfortunately, there are still 267 non-member cities in the State. That means that there are clerks and finance officers out there who are not receiving the benefits of our association. The non-member cities are listed below. If you know the clerk in one of these cities, or they are in your area, please let them know about the CCMFO.

### NON-MEMBER CITIES

Admire	Agenda	Agra	Alden	Alexander	Allen
Almena	Alton	Americus	Argonia	Assaria	Athol
Atlanta	Aurora	Barnard	Barnes	Bassett	Beattie
Belvue	Benedict	Bennington	Bern	Beverly	Bison
Boque	Bluff City	Bonner Spgs	Brownell	Brookville	Buffalo
Burden	Bunker Hill	Burdett	Burr Oak	Burrton	Bushong
Bushton	Byers	Carlton	Carbondale	Cedar Point	Cedar
Chase	Clayton	Climax	Clyde	Coats	Collyer
Colony	Coolidge	Copeland	Corning	Coyville	Cuba
Cullison	Culver	Damar	Danville	Dearing	Delia
Denton	Dexter	Dorrance	Dresden	Dunlap	Durham
Dwight	Earlton	Easton	Edmond	Elbing	Elgin
Elk City	Elk Falls	Elmdale	Elsmore	Englewood	Esbon
Everest	Fairview	Freeport	Fulton	Frederick	Galatia
Gaylord	Gaude Springs	Gem	Glade	Goessel	Goff
Gorham	Gove City	Green	Haddam	Haolin	Hanover
Harris	Havensville	Havana	Hazelton	Herndon	Holyrood
Hollenberg	Hope	Horton	Hoyt	Hunnell	Hudson
Hunter	Huron	Inman	Isabel	Iuka	Jennings
Kincaid	Kirwin	LaBette	Lake Quivera	La Crosse	Lane
Lancaster	Langdon	Latham	Latimer	LeCompton	Lehigh
Lenora	Leonardville	Leona	Lewis	Liebsenthal	Liberty
Lincolnville	Lone Elm	Longton	Long Island	Lost Springs	Lorraine
Louisville	Mahaska	Manter	Manchester	Maple Hill	Mayetta
Matfield Green	Mayfield	McCracken	McDonald	McFarland	Menlo
Meriden	Milan	Mildred	Milford	Mission Woods	Minneola
Morganville	Morrowville	Morland	Mound City	Moscow	Mulberry
Mullinville	Munden	Narka	Nashville	Natoma	Netawaka
Neosho Falls	Neosho Rapids	New Albany	New Cambria	Nortonville	Niotaze
Oak Hill	Offerle	Oketo	Olivet	Dlsburg	Onaga
Oneida	Oskaloosa	Ozawkie	Palco	Paradise	Park
Paxico	Penalosa	Peru	Pleasanton	Powhattan	Plevna
Princeton	Radium	Ramona	Randall	Randolph	Rantoul
Raymond	Redfield	Republic	Reserve	Rexford	Richmond
Richfield	Riley	Robinson	Roseland	Rush Center	Rozel
Russell Springs	Santanta	Savonburg	Sawyer	Schoenchen	Scanmon
Scottsville	Scandia	Severence	Severy	Seward	Sharon
Simpson	Smolan	Soldier	Speed	South Haven	Spivey
Stark	Strong City	Sun City	Susank	Sylvia	Tampa
Tescott	Tiaken	Tipton	Tyro	Uniontown	Utica
Vermillion	Vining	Viola	Virgil	Waldo	Waldron
Wallace	Walton	Waverly	Waterville	Westmoreland	Weir
Westphalia	Wetmore	Wheaton	White Cloud	Whiting	Willis
Williamsburg	Willowbrook	Woodbine	Woodston	Zenda	Zurich



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## 1988 CITY CLERKS



1988 GRADUATING CLASS

Left to Right: Front Row: Virginia Thimmesch, Garden Plain; Ellen Bishop, Towanda; Barbara Smith, Garden Plain; Carole Wellen, Elkart. Second Row: Alice Considine, Halstead; Ron Gabriel, Wathena; Karen Gates, Russell. Third Row: Heide Cl Manhattan; Jean Blecha, Ottawa; Donna Albert, Towanda; Jane Lamb, Winfield; Ann Brenzikofer, Florence; Sandy Howell, Lenexa; Sharon Wiles, Fall River; Laurie Neemann, Hiawatha.



Professional baseball player Buddy Biancalana spoke on Public Opinion and Government: Effects of the Media.



Public Officials who attended the graduation ceremonies were: Curt Wood, Finance Director, Manhattan; Gregg Gibson, Management Information Officer, Manhattan; Bruce McCallum, Director of Public Works, Manhattan; Bob Bergh, Councilmember, Garden Plain; Thomas Sandoval, Council President, Garden Plain; Paul McPhillips, Mayor, Garden Plain; and Leonard Albert, Mayor, Towanda.

# CERTIFICATION INSTITUTE



FIRST YEAR CLASS



SECOND YEAR CLASS

## AN OVERVIEW OF MY THREE YEARS AT CITY CLERK'S INSTITUTE

\*\*\*Donna (Suzie) Albert, Assistant City Clerk of Towanda, Kansas, presented the following speech during the Public Speaking session at the November 1988 Certification Institute. It is an excellent example of how most clerks feel who graduate from the Institute.

I would like to quickly review my three years at the Institute. Randy said, in her class the other day, that speaking in front of people builds character. This made me hesitate to volunteer to give a speech, even though I knew Loretta was asking for volunteers, because I've been told many times that I am already quite a character. But, I really felt I wanted to share my experiences. It might help the first year people understand what they have been through this week, and maybe put into words what the second and third year people feel.

That first year, VERY CONFUSED. That is how I felt all week long. I kept thinking, "There is so much information. This doesn't relate to me or my city. I am in over my head. I'll never remember it all. I came expecting to get how to information and this is what for. It has to get better. But, on the other hand, it's so nice to meet other clerks from cities all over the state. We visit and find our cities are different but our problems are a lot the same. I heard a great idea when a bunch of us were in the bar the other night. Now, what was Barb's last name, and what city is she from? I'll look at her name tag tomorrow." By Wednesday my derriere hurts. I feel like a zom-

bie, my mind is mush.

Special events during that year were: the Russian Basketball team and the Nicaraguan ambassador were staying at the same hotel. The ambassador on the same floor as me. There was secret service security everywhere. In the elevators, the pool, hot tub and in every corner. Then, on Thursday, the fire alarm goes off. A false alarm, of course, but what excitement.

The week is over; I MADE IT. We go back home. Through the year I am very surprised that I do remember many things I learned at the Institute. Situations arise that jog my memory and send me to my notebook to look something up. Gee, I guess it did relate after all.

Then one day, the notice comes again for the Institute. I remember how I felt last year. Oh no. I am not sure I can sit that long again. But, I thought to myself, "Keep an open mind, you have learned through the year that the information stayed with you and is very useful."

When you get there, you see all the familiar faces. IT'S GREAT. You renew your friendships and they grow. "Hey, I remember what town she/he is from. I need to talk to Sharon to see how they handled that problem I read about in the newspaper. I'll get to make new friends and learn more about cities."

The week is long. Yes, my seat hurts and I am tired. But it's better, it's worth it.

Special events of my second year were: our first snow, the flu bug ran around and turned many green. Ray Humbert invited us to the City Commis-

sion meeting. I didn't go, but many did. For the dance special after the banquet, we rented a juke box.

The notice for the Institute comes again. It's my third year. Oh dear, here we go again, hours of sitting. But, I can handle it, this is my last year.

The week is long, but it doesn't seem as bad as before. I feel PROUD. I am proud of myself because I set a goal and I have accomplished it. I am proud of my city fathers. They had the foresight to recognize the value of education and they invested in me.

There are more new faces - I love it. Again the familiar faces, the friends, are here too. It sure is nice when you call another city for some reason and can see, in your mind, the face of the person on the other end.

Special events of my third year: Pat got in trouble (ha ha) for teasing Loretta. What an inventive way of getting your homework done. Pat called it good old-fashioned city clerk ingenuity. Parking is a problem but we can handle it, we are City Clerks. Ray invited us to the City Commission meeting again. This time I went, but no one told me we were going to be on TV. At the meeting the Mayor signed a proclamation making it City Clerk's Institute Week in Lawrence.

In closing, I would like to say thank you to Loretta. We know how hard you work and we have all put something together for you. Some gave big, and some gave small, but we all understand how hard your job is. We really do appreciate your efforts even if we don't tell you. Thank you, Loretta.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee of the City Clerks and Municipal Finance Officers Association of Kansas would like to present the following slate of officers for the 1989-1990 year:

President Barbara Young, Merriam  
 Vice Pres Jean Krehbiel, Hesston  
 Secretary Mary Reed, Parsons  
 Treasurer Ron Thornburg, Dodge City  
 Directors 1989-1992:  
 Paula Holle, Marysville  
 Karen Fitzmaier, Maize

The slate of officers listed above will be voted on at the March Clerk's School. For your information, we have compiled a synopsis of the qualifications of these members so that you will be more well informed when asked to vote:

**President - Barbara Young:**  
 Barbara is the Director of Finance for the City of Merriam, a position she has held for several months. Prior to that, she was City Clerk for five years, and an Assistant City Clerk for five years. She became a Certified Municipal Clerk on February 25, 1988. She is a member of the IIMC Education Committee, current vice-president of the City Clerks and Municipal Finance Officers Association of Kansas, Chairman of the Program Planning Committee and the Regional Committee, is on the Board of Directors of the Merriam Optimists, and is a member of the Merriam Country Club and the Christian Church.  
 Barbara says "I'm a firm believer in the professionalism of the municipal clerk; I also believe Kansas Clerks can do anything."



**Vice President - Jean Krehbiel**  
 Jean has worked for the City of Hesston for fourteen years - two years as Deputy Clerk, and the last twelve years as City Clerk. She attained her CMC on January 21, 1983, and became a member of the Academy for Advanced Education in June of 1986. She is Chairman of the CCMFO Education Committee and is a member of the Program Planning Committee. She has attended three IIMC Conferences.  
 Jean says that she enjoys her work as a municipal clerk and the professional training she receives from the State Association Clerks and Finance Officers Schools.



**Secretary - Mary Reed**  
 Mary Reed has been a City Clerk since 1981. She served the City of Altamont for six years, and for the last year has served as City Clerk/Finance Director for the City of Parsons. She completed the Clerk's Institute in 1984, and has applied for her CMC. Mary is currently serving on the CCMFO Program Planning Committee and is a Regional Membership Chairman. She has attended numerous seminars including Cash Management, Personnel Management, and Risk Management, and attended the 1987 IIMC Meeting in Spokane and the League of Cities Meeting in Boston. She is a member of the CCMFO and the IIMC, and is Secretary of Soroptimist International of Parsons.  
 Mary and her husband, Jerald have two grown children, Delvin and Kristine. Delvin and Cheryl have two children - Justin, 8, and Jenna, 3. Kristine and Keith are going to become parents any day now. Her hobbies include reading, grandchildren, and redoing houses.

**Treasurer - Ron Thornburg**  
 Ron graduated from Barnes Business College in 1969 with a diploma in accounting. He accepted the position of Assistant City Clerk with the City of Dodge City in February 1972, became Computer Programmer and Systems Analyst in 1973-1974, became City Clerk in 1976 and Director of Finance in 1978. He serves on the Kansas League of Municipalities Finance and Taxation Committee, is the Kansas State Representative to the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), and is one of the directors of the Kansas Inter-governmental Risk Management Association (KIRMA).  
 Ron says that he has enjoyed the things he has been able to accomplish for the City of Dodge City and the City Clerks and Municipal Finance Officers Association of Kansas, and he looks forward to the opportunities and challenges of the future.

**Director 1989-92 - Paula Holle**  
 Paula has been employed by the City of Marysville since 1981 and was appointed City Clerk on June 1, 1985. She graduated from the Institute for Municipal Clerks in 1987 and attained her CMC in October, 1988. Her previous experience included thirteen years in administrative positions in Federal Civil Service and nine years secretarial experience. Paula is currently enrolled in the Supervisory Management for the Municipal Clerk correspondence course through the Michigan State University.  
 Paula is a member of the CCMFO, IIMC, Marysville Business and Professional Women's organization, Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) Advisory Committee, Toastmasters, and the American Legion Auxiliary. She also serves on the Marshall County Optimist Club Board of Directors and is the Religious Education Coordinator for the St. Gregory's Catholic Church.

**Director 1989-92 - Karen Fitzmaier**  
 Karen has held the position of City Clerk in Maize since June, 1976. The appointment was to be a part-time position of two half days a week and Saturday morning. Today, it is a forty hour a week position plus. Since 1976, Karen has supported the Kansas Association by attending the annual schools, being a co-presenter and panel member at several March schools, and by serving on the Membership and Education Committees over the past few years. Currently, she is the Regional Chairperson for Sedgwick and Suoner Counties. In November 1980, Karen completed the Certification Institute and earned her CMC on March 13, 1981. She has attended all eight of the Advanced Academy workshops and has been a member of the Advanced Academy since 1986. Karen attended the IIMC Conference held in Kansas City in 1977.





Away from City Hall, Karen is an active member of the Maize United Methodist Church as Chairperson of the Board of Trustees and as a Sunday School Teacher. She has been active in community affairs by serving on the Festival/Centennial Committee since 1986 and is a member of the newly formed PRIDE Committee. As a Certified Graphoanalyst, she gives lectures and teaches the Eight Basic Steps of Handwriting and is currently the Vice-President of the Kansas Chapter of the International Graphoanalysis Society.

The Carry-over Directors are:

- 1987-1990 Howard Pevehouse, Olathe
- Joyce Clark, Ness City
- 1988-1991 Paula Shapland, Ulysses
- William Goering, McPherson

A brief synopsis of their qualifications is listed below for your information only:

**Director 1987-90 - Howard Pevehouse**  
Howard obtained a B.A. Degree in Business and Management from the University of Maryland, and a Master of Public Administration Degree from Webster University in St. Louis, Missouri. He has ten years experience in municipal government with the City of Olathe - three years as Management Analyst/Budget Officer and the last seven years as City Clerk. Howard has been a member of CCMFD for seven years, and has attended all business meetings, served as Chairman of the Legislative Committee from 1985 to 1987, and was elected to the Board of Directors in 1987. He has been a member of the IIMC for six years. He has attended four international conferences and been a member of the Legislative Committee and the Membership Committee.

**Director 1987-90 - Joyce Clark**  
Joyce has been with the City of Ness City since 1980, starting as Deputy Clerk and assuming her present position of City Clerk in 1981. She received her CMC in June 1985, after completing the Certification Institute. She has completed several Advanced Academy workshops, and was accepted into the Advanced Academy in 1988. In 1988, Joyce was elected to fill an unexpired term on the Board of Directors of the CCMFD. She has been a member of IIMC since 1981, and is currently serving her second year as a member of the IIMC Membership Committee.

**Director 1988-91 - Bill Goering**  
Bill has been employed by the City of McPherson since 1982. He served as Director of Finance/City Clerk until 1986 when he became the Clerk/Administrator. Bill received a B.S. in Business Administration from McPherson College, and M.S. in Education from Emporia State Teachers College, and an Ed. D. in Educational Administration from the University of Kansas.


Prior to his employment with the City of McPherson, Bill spent two years on the Kansas State House of Representatives, sold real estate, was a teacher, a principal, and a superintendent of schools.

Bill graduated from the Certification Institute in 1984. He has been active in the Association and has presented several sessions on budget preparation and economic development at annual meetings. He is currently serving as Chairman of the Legislative Committee.

**Director 1988-91 - Paula Shapland**  
Paula was employed by the City of Ulysses in 1975 as a receptionist and payroll clerk; she assumed responsibility for computer installation and operations in 1978; and became City Clerk in 1981. Paula received her CMC in 1982 and was accepted into the Advanced Academy in 1988. She is currently serving as Co-Chairman of a Regional Education District and is a member of the IIMC Membership Committee. Paula was elected to the Board of Directors in 1988. She was recently elected to serve a three year term for the Grant County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

Paula's hobbies include woodworking, sewing, swimming, tennis, and reading.





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# TAX EXEMPT BOND STATUS SURVIVES 100th CONGRESS

By Vernon Stallman, CMC/AEE,  
Chairperson  
IIMC Financial Management Committee

(One piece of good news came out of the recently adjourned 100th Congress. The possibility that legislation would be introduced which would cloud the municipal bond market for the coming year did not materialize. The following will give one the background of what is happening in the municipal bond market arena. It is based upon a speech given to the Kansas City Clerks and Municipal Finance Officers at the Kansas League of Cities Annual Conference.)

On April 20, 1988, the Supreme Court ruled that the federal government may tax the interest paid on state and local bonds. (South Carolina v. Baker)

Supreme Court Justice William Brennan, Jr. stated in part, "We see no constitutional reason for treating persons who receive interest on government bonds differently than persons who receive income from other types of contracts with the government." (This is a reversal of a nearly century-old principle of a separation of federal and state/local governments.)

In a 1895 Supreme Court decision in the Pollack v. Farmer's Loan & Trust Co. case, the Court ruled that interest paid on state and local government bonds was exempt from federal taxation under the doctrine of reciprocal immunity.

## THE DOOR IS OPEN

What does this ruling mean to municipal governments like ours? Presently, we will continue as usual, but the door has been opened for Congress to tax interest in the future. One estimate is that the elimination of the exemption for interest income would mean that interest costs for cities would increase from 28 to 35 percent.

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the Municipal Securities Rule-Making Board (MSRB) are calling for new regulatory legislation for mandatory disclosures made in connection with the sale of bonds, lowering cost, and increase municipal cost by requiring detailed examination of each transaction. Cities would need to hire an advisor to handle disclosure documents.

## COST CAP

More added cost to bond issues, as mentioned previously, would help drive many Kansas municipalities out of the bond market if a proposal by Rep. Brian Donnelly (D-Mass.) comes to pass. Rep. Donnelly has written to members of the House Ways and Means Committee asking them to join him in introducing legislation to impose an issuance cost cap on all tax exempt municipal bonds, including revenue bonds and full faith and credit bonds. Under this proposal, no bond would be tax exempt if issuance cost exceeds one percent of the face value of the bonds. The bill would prohibit the use of any source of funds to meet costs in excess of the proposed cap. Issuance cost for a \$100,000 bond issue could not exceed \$1,000; for a \$1,000,000 bond issue, issuance costs could not exceed \$10,000. These costs include financial advisor cost, legal council cost, rating service cost, publication cost, printing cost and any other cost associated with issuance.

(IIMC recently received a telephone call from a member in Alaska that the minimum cost of selling a revenue bond was at least 2 percent in fees alone, not counting traveling and publication costs.)

Fortunately, Representative Donnelly removed a cloud over future municipal public financing when he clarified the Congressional Record that he would not make support retroac-

tive on legislative efforts to impose limits on municipal issuance costs. As reported in the Nation's Cities Weekly, Rep. Donnelly stated: "I am sympathetic to the concerns of state and local officials - especially of small towns and cities - that may have difficulty going to market next year if there is a question of retroactive effective date." This statement should clear the way for cities and towns to be able to issue general obligation bonds next year.

## FUTURE ACTION

I urge municipal clerks to keep track of proposed legislation that will be introduced in Congress next year; to understand its impact on their municipality's long range financial plans; and to contact their congressional delegation and ask them to oppose any congressional action which will hurt municipal governments' ability to issue bonds.

The change in Rep. Donnelly's attitude on how local governments viewed the importance of the tax-exempt status of municipal bonds came about because of concerted effort of the professional associations of state and municipal officials. Recently, representatives of more than 30 public interest groups (including the IIMC) met in Washington, D.C. to plan a coordinated grass-roots campaign designed to convince Congress not to infringe further on the ability of state and local governments to issue tax-exempt bonds. The several Congressional Committees which have oversight on legislation affecting municipal bonds and debt financing (such as House Ways and Means Committee and House Public Works and Transportation Committee) received explanatory letters outlining the reasons for opposing any limitations on the status of state and local bonds.

These letters were signed by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks and other concerned public interest groups such as the National League of Cities, Government Finance Officers Association, American Public Works Association, National Association of Counties, American Planning Association, and the National Association of Regional Councils.

In 1989, the question of the tax-exempt bond status will be open to congressional legislative review. You are urged to keep in touch with what is happening in this field.

IIMC would appreciate it if you would share any articles that you may have written to your members, articles or papers issued by your state league, or any material that you may have received on the subject from other professional organizations in which you are a member.



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## MCEF SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

MCEF SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

For the fourth year, the Municipal Clerks' Education Foundation of IIMC (MCEF) will award 90 scholarships to municipal clerks and deputy clerks so they can attend an IIMC-Recognized Municipal Clerks Institute.

This year, the MCEF has extended the Award to second and third year institute participants who need financial assistance, with preference being given to first-year students.

Ten scholarships will be available to clerks in each of nine IIMC Regions throughout the U.S. Each scholarship carries a stipend of up to \$200 for an institute's tuition and registration fees.

Scholarship criteria are:

- .. Recipient must be an IIMC member when applying for the scholarship.
- .. Scholarship must be used between June 1, 1989, and May 31, 1990.
- .. Award basis is need and merit.
- .. Application to be received by January 31, 1989.
- .. A scholarship Committee administers the program with the selections processed by March 1989.
- .. Recipients will be announced in April 1989.

The International Institute of Municipal Clerks sponsors career development seminars at 39 universities and colleges throughout the United States, attended by over 4,000 clerks, deputies and other officials annually. These institutes provide 100-hours or more of in-depth courses in public administration and management, social and interpersonal concerns, and functionally-related subjects. Emphasis is on improving an individual's capabilities as an administrator of a key government function.

Completion of an IIMC municipal clerks institute meets the education requirements toward its prestigious Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) Award.

For further information and scholarship applications, write to: MCEF Scholarship Program, IIMC, 160 N. Altadena Drive, Pasadena, CA 91107, telephone (818) 795-6153. Deadline for receipt of application is January 31, 1989.

\*\*\*\*\*

Winter is here when the kids start leaving open all the doors they've been slamming all summer.

\*\*\*\*\*

## "WINGS" ADVERTISING

Anyone wishing to place advertising in "Wings" should contact me for further information and rates.

Small classified ads are also available for positions open, special messages, etc.

Debbie Durler, Editor

## CLERKS PREPARE INTERNATIONAL COOKBOOK

The Municipal Clerk's Education Foundation of IIMC has published a 347-page cookbook which features the recipes of city clerks throughout the world.

Available at \$12.50 per copy, proceeds from the MCEF COOKBOOK will be used toward the MCEF Scholarship Program. Each year the Foundation awards up to 90 Scholarships to municipal clerks and deputy clerks to attend career development seminars held at 39 universities and colleges throughout the United States.

The publication is specially bound so that it will lie flat when in use. It contains a complete index by geographic area of all the recipes in the book. All of the recipes are those of IIMC members and friends and have been personally "Kitchen Tested" by them.

To order, send a check in the amount of \$12.50 for each cookbook, made payable to MCEF COOKBOOK, 160 N. Altadena Drive, Pasadena, CA 91107. The publication will be mailed prepaid to you. Please allow 4 to 6 weeks delivery time.

## CITY CLERKS ARE A LOT LIKE "MOTHERS"

Who do the kids go to when they want something done (check my homework, sew my jeans, wash my shirt)? They usually go to mom. Who does the City Manager, Administrator, or Council go to when they want something to get done (we need information, a survey, report)? To the City Clerk, of course.

Who do the kids go to when they need someone to solve their problems (there's this boy.. should I go.., what should I say)? To mom. Who do people go to when they have a problem at City Hall (where will the money come from, what does this report mean, my basement is full of water..)? To the City Clerk, right?

And, who do the kids ask all their questions to (what are frogs made of, why is the sky blue, why do I have to have a brother)? You guessed it, it's mom. And how about in your City, don't the questions usually end up in your office (when is the election, didn't we pass an ordinance, when was the last time we..)?

You might say that "mother" is usually the hub of the family, and that the City Clerk is usually the hub of the City.

## ALL I REALLY NEED TO KNOW I LEARNED IN KINDERGARTEN

By Robert Fulgham

Most of what I really need to know about how to live, and what to do and how to be, I learned in kindergarten. Wisdom was not at the top of the graduate school mountain, but there in the sandbox at nursery school.

These are the things I learned: Share everything. Play fair. Don't hit people. Put things back where you found them. Clean up your own mess. Don't take things that aren't yours. Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody. Wash your hands before you eat. Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you. Live a balanced life. Learn some and think some and draw and paint and sing and dance and play and work some every day.

When you go out into the world, watch for traffic, hold hands and stick together. Be aware of wonder. Remember the little seed in the plastic cup. The roots go down and the plant goes up and nobody really knows how or why, but we are all like that.

Goldfish and hamsters and white mice and even the little seed in the plastic cup - they all die. So do we.

And then remember the book about Dick and Jane and the first word you learned, the biggest word of all... LOOK. Everything you need to know is in there somewhere. The Golden Rule and love and basic sanitation. Ecology and politics and sane living.

Think of what a better world it would be if we all - the whole world - had cookies and milk about 3 o'clock every afternoon and then lay down with our blankets for a nap. Or if we had a basic policy in our nation and other nations to always put things back where we found them and cleaned up our own messes. And it is still true, no matter how old you are, when you go out into the world, it is best to hold hands and stick together.

## THE CLERK'S WORTH

The Clerk's Worth is a 15-minute videotape on the role of the municipal clerk in local government. It covers the historic development of the office and the variety of its duties and functions in cities throughout the world, with specific examples of the actual services performed in large and small municipalities.

The interesting presentation can be used to inform the general public, service clubs, community groups and municipal officials. The video shows the need for a strong and continuous education program for municipal clerks and discusses the IIMC Certification program, the Academy for Advanced Education, and the Municipal Clerks Institutes.



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