

# IIMC Region IX Winter 2023 Newsletter

Alaska ★ California ★ Hawaii ★ Oregon ★ Washington

Alaska Association of Municipal Clerks ↔ City Clerks Association of California ↔  
Oregon Association of Municipal Recorders ↔ Washington Municipal Clerks Association

International Institute of Municipal Clerks — Region IX



ALASKA

CALIFORNIA

HAWAII

OREGON

WASHINGTON

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## Director's Message

As your Region IX Directors on the IIMC Board of Directors, it is important that we keep our members informed of our activities and the actions taken by the Board. To that end, we are pleased to produce bi-annual newsletters (winter and summer) and submit other information through your state association leadership to keep you apprised of IIMC news, policy issues, and upcoming Region IX events.

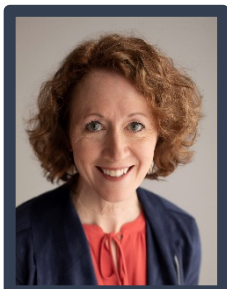
We hope you find the information useful and that it provides a sense of camaraderie in uniting Region IX. As a member of Region IX, you are part of a coalition of colleagues with a strong voice in IIMC leadership and policymaking.

If there is anything that we can do to assist you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Warmly,

*Ruth & Jamie*

## Region IX Directors



Ruth Post, MMC  
City of Philomath, Oregon

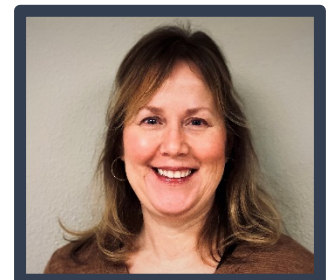
[ruth.post@philomathoregon.gov](mailto:ruth.post@philomathoregon.gov)

Term expires: 2024

Jamie Newman, MMC  
City of Wasilla, Alaska

[jnewman@cityofwasilla.gov](mailto:jnewman@cityofwasilla.gov)

Term expires: 2025



# IIMC Region IX Winter 2023 Newsletter

Alaska ★ California ★ Hawaii ★ Oregon ★ Washington

## What's been going on ...

Ruth Post, MMC



Winter is officially here and we're ready to kick off 2023. As your Region Directors, Jamie and I have been busy with a variety of IIMC business, reaching out to our members, and sharing the latest news with you at the OAMR and AAMC conferences.

We were greeted at the OAMR Annual Conference in Newport, Oregon, in September with a beautiful sunny day on the Oregon Coast. Jamie and I were able to participate in a "Welcome to the Profession" session and introduce a large group of first-time attendees to all things IIMC.

Congratulations to 2022 Recorder of the Year Amy Sowa, MMC, Roseburg, and President's Award of Distinction recipient Kayla Duddy, CMC, Redmond, on your much-deserved recognition. Newly installed President Karin Johnson took the reins from President Cathy with an enthusiastic Board that will be taking steps to move their newly adopted Strategic Plan forward. Congratulations OAMR!

Our IIMC Mid-Year Board meeting was cancelled in November due to Hurricane Nicole. Unfortunately, I was already halfway to Florida when the call came out to cancel the meeting; so I can now say I've experienced a tropical storm first-hand. Ironically, I was born on the day of the infamous Oregon Columbus Day Storm; so I'll just chalk it up to another windy day. Jamie, amazingly enough, was able to sweet talk her way off of a loaded airplane in Seattle to turn around. Her suitcase, however, got to experience the storm.

The Board held a virtual meeting a couple of weeks later to conduct at least some of our agenda and will hold another virtual meeting in February. I know some of you took advantage of the opportunity to observe the meeting and hear the decision-making happening first-hand. This may become a more regular occurrence so watch for those announcements from IIMC.

December had us traveling to Anchorage, Alaska, for the AAMC Annual Conference. With new dates, a new hotel, and a new conference center location, AAMC took it all in stride and put on a great conference. We took a new approach by hosting a table of IIMC information for both new and seasoned members to pick up. Based on feedback, look for something similar at the WMCA and CCAC conferences this spring.

Congratulations to President Brenda Ballou on a successful year leading AAMC and we look forward to working with new President Brenda Henry. Congrats also go out to 2022 Clerk of the Year Lonnie McKechnie, CMC, Matanuska-Susitna Borough. Describing our trip to Anchorage would be incomplete if I didn't mention the 6+ inches of snow that fell during the course of our visit. We don't get snowstorms like that in Western Oregon very often, so it was a treat to get us in the holiday mood.

We'll be gearing up for those spring conferences in Washington and California and look forward to these opportunities to meet more of our amazing members along the way.

Look for updates in this newsletter about the 2023 IIMC Annual Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota in May; a recap of our Board meetings, statements from each of the candidates for IIMC Vice-President, and updates from each of our Region IX State Presidents.

It's an honor to serve you all and don't hesitate to reach out if we can ever provide an assist with anything IIMC related.

All the Best,

Ruth

# IIMC Region IX Winter 2023 Newsletter

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## Travel Update

Jamie Newman, MMC



**OAMR Conference.** We attended the Oregon Association of Municipal Recorders (OAMR) Annual Conference in the beautiful seaside city of Newport, September 28 – 30. OAMR 2022 President Cathy Nelson, Incoming President Karin Johnson, and the OAMR membership couldn't have been warmer and more welcoming! The "educational smorgasbord" featured new and refresher courses that were engaging and informative. With approximately 95 attendees, the Conference offered a balance of educational and social networking opportunities. Other out-of-state attendees at the Conference included IIMC President Pamela Smith; IIMC

Past President Sheri Pierce; former IIMC President Mary Lynne Stratta, who facilitated the Athenian Dialogue; AAMC President Brenda Ballou; CCAC President Marc Donohue; WMCA President Shawn Campbell; Northwest Clerks Institute Director Joann Tilton; and former Region IX Director Dawn Abrahamson. Congratulations OAMR, the Conference was excellent!

**Midyear Board Meeting.** As members of the IIMC Board of Directors, we were scheduled to attend the Board's midyear meeting in November in Orlando, Florida; however, due to Tropical Storm Nicole, the meeting was canceled and will be rescheduled to February 2023. In the interim, the Board met virtually on December 2, to act on time sensitive matters. Please see pages 4 and 5 for more information on the meeting.

**AAMC Conference.** We attended the Alaska Association of Municipal Clerks (AAMC) Annual Conference, December 5 – 6, in the beautiful and snowy city of Anchorage. AAMC President Brenda Ballou and the Conference Planning and Education Committees did an excellent job! An Athenian Dialogue and Advanced Academy preceded the two-day Conference. The Conference culminated with a banquet that featured interactive fund-raising activities, dinner, and dancing. Congratulations to Lonnie R. McKechnie, Matanuska-Borough Clerk on receiving the Clerk of the Year award. Honored guests in attendance at the Conference included IIMC Past President Sheri Pierce; CCAC President Marc Donohue; WMCA President Shawn Campbell; OAMR President Karin Johnson; and Northwest Clerks Institute Director Joann Tilton. Regretfully, IIMC President Pamela Smith was unable to attend the Conference due to ongoing disaster recovery efforts in her community.

**WMCA & CCAC Conferences.** Looking to 2023, we are scheduled to attend the following Conferences: WMCA Annual Conference in Stevenson (March); CCAC Annual Conference in Palm Springs (April); and the 2023 IIMC Annual Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota, May 14 – 17.

**IIMC Conference.** The 2023 IIMC Annual Conference will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, May 14 – 17, 2023. Pre-conference education programs including Advanced Academies and Athenian Dialogues will be offered. For more information, visit <https://www.iimc.com/475/2023-IIMC-Annual-Conference>. For those attending, the 2023 Conference Policies and the 2023 Cancellation Policy are available for download from <https://www.iimc.com/475/2023-IIMC-Annual-Conference> (good information for attendees).



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## IIMC Mid-Year Board Meeting Report

Jamie Newman, MMC

The IIMC Board of Directors virtually met on December 2. The Board was originally scheduled to meet in person in Orlando, Florida, in November; however, that meeting was canceled due to Tropical Storm Nicole.

The virtual meeting, held via Zoom, attracted 70 viewers. Below is a summary of the action taken at the December 2, meeting.

- **IIMC Constitution Review**
  - Referred back to the Task Force to consider amendments offered by Board Member Huycke, Region X.
- **Process for Discrepancies in CMC/MMC Application Review**
  - Approved in-house policy for IIMC staff to follow regarding discrepancies in the CMC/MMC application process.
  - A copy of the policy is available upon request.
- **2023 Hotel Cancellation Penalty - IIMC Annual Conference**
  - Approved instituting a one night stay penalty of approximately \$177 upon a guest's cancellation regardless of when or why the cancellation occurs.
  - Background. For the 2022 Annual IIMC Conference, IIMC lost approximately \$7,500 from hotel attrition due primarily to conference attendees reserving more than one room only to never utilize the additional rooms. Instituting the penalty is intended to reduce risk to IIMC and leaves the hotel block open longer so that more members have the opportunity to stay in the host hotel.
- **Education PLUS Program (EPP)**
  - Approved program guidelines with a projected launch date of June 2023.
  - Background. The new EPP program is not a designation but an addition to the current education programs (CMC/MMC). Members must hold an MMC in good standing to apply to this program. More information about the program will be coming from IIMC. During its inception, this program was often referred to as the Beyond the MMC program.
- **IIMC Part-Time Finance Specialist**
  - IIMC will begin recruitment in January 2023.
  - This position requires an individual who has worked in finance. This individual will not be traveling or presenting at Board meetings. Those duties will remain with IIMC CPA Consultant Connie Parker.

*Report continued to next page*

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## IIMC Mid-Year Board Meeting Report, continued

Jamie Newman, MMC

### Budget and Planning Committee Recommendations for Board Approval

- \$10.00 membership increase. Failed.
- \$25.00 increase in 2023 Conference Delegate Registration. Approved for 2023 only.
- 5 percent increase in IIMC staff salaries, excluding the Executive Director. Approved.
- \$2,400 increase in stipend for parliamentarian at annual conference (brings stipend to \$5,000 annually). Approved.

*2022 IIMC Board of Directors  
Little Rock, Arkansas*



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## 2023 IIMC Annual Conference - Minneapolis, Minnesota How much does it cost?

One of the most frequent questions we hear is, "how much does it cost to attend an IIMC Annual Conference?"

Did you know that IIMC has an awesome tool to help you estimate the cost? It includes a worksheet to determine your registration costs.

([Link to interactive Excel Worksheet](#) – File → Save As → Download a Copy or ([Download PDF](#))

([Link to Budget Worksheet Instructions](#))

([Budget Sample](#))

From there, the Conference Budget Worksheet will help you estimate hotel, meals, and ground transportation, and incidentals to provide a total conference cost. Take a look at the "Budget Sample" to see a good cost estimate for hotel, meals and ground transportation. Plug in an estimate for your airfare, and you should have a pretty solid estimate to work with.

Strategies for reducing your cost include:

- Share a room with another attendee. Reach out to your State Association and find out who else is going. This can save up to \$500. I've done it for many years and it shows my municipality that I'm invested enough to save the City money if I can.
- Apply for an [IIMC Conference Scholarship](#). Region Directors get to award two members scholarships for conference registrations (\$625). Apply today!
- Hoping to go to both an Institute AND the Conference? Apply for an IIMC Professional Development scholarship and save your City money there. Saving money attending an Institute might be enough to create the leverage you need to go to the Annual Conference.

## [2023 IIMC Annual Conference](#) **Minneapolis, Minnesota** **May 14–17, 2023**



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## 2023 IIMC Annual Conference

May 14–17, 2023, Minneapolis, Minnesota



## 77th IIMC Annual Conference

Minneapolis, Minnesota

May 14 – May 17, 2023

10 CMC/MMC Education Points Available

Athenian Dialogues & Academies May 13 & 14

Minneapolis shares the "Twin Cities" moniker with Minnesota's capital city, St. Paul and is renowned as the perfect blend of natural beauty and urban sophistication. Home of a chain of lakes, the mighty Mississippi, and 200 miles of walking and biking within the city limits, steps from a vibrant arts and music scene, shopping, and museums.



The 77th IIMC Annual Conference will take place in the Loring Park neighborhood of Minneapolis. Loring Park is one of the largest parks in the city and location of the Walker Art Center. Since 1940, the Walker Art Center has been a Minneapolis institution and one of the most visited modern and contemporary art museums in the country. The interdisciplinary exhibits are enriched by a roof-top terrace--with mini golf in the summer, plazas, and gardens. Across the street, the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden is the largest urban sculpture park in the world, featuring some 40 works of contemporary art, including the city's iconic Spoonbridge and Cherry that is open year-round and free to visit.



### FUTURE IIMC ANNUAL CONFERENCES:



**78th Annual Conference**  
Calgary, Alberta, Canada  
Sunday, May 19 thru Wednesday, May 22, 2024



**79th Annual Conference**  
St. Louis, MO  
Sunday, May 18 thru Wednesday, 21, 2025



**80th Annual Conference**  
Reno, NV  
Sunday, May 17 thru Wednesday, May 21, 2026

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## New IIMC Members - Welcome!

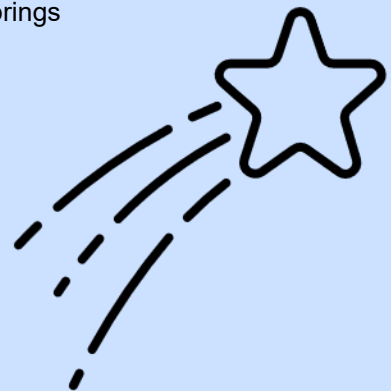
July 1 - November 30, 2022

### Alaska Association of Municipal Clerks

Tina Ryman	Borough Clerk	Borough of Yakutat
Crystal Harvilla	Deputy Clerk	Borough of Bristol Bay
Jasmine Kritz	City Clerk	City of Aleknagik
Heather Mendonsa	City Clerk	City of Craig
Elise Sorum-Birk	Deputy City Clerk	City of Valdez
Shelby Carlson	City Clerk	City of Whittier
Kathy J. Carr	Deputy Borough Clerk	Borough of Skagway

### City Clerks Association of California

Cristina Aguilar Torres	Deputy City Clerk	City of Ceres
Monica Cisneros	Deputy City Clerk	City of Livingston
Melanie Ferreira	Police Dispatcher	City of Sebastopol
Hilary Gaede	Deputy Town Clerk	Town of Yountville
Emily Grisenti	Management Analyst	City of Menifee
Sean Harris	Assistant Authority Clerk	San Diego Co. Regional Airport Auth.
Fallon Martin	City Clerk	City of Ceres
LaTonia Peoples-Stokes	Deputy Assistant District	Bay Area Rapid Transit
Beatrice Rivera	Administrative Assistant	City of Camarillo
Megan Roche	Legislative Secretary/	City of San Jose
Christina Ruiz	Deputy City Clerk	City of Gilroy
Catherine Simonovich	City Clerk	City of Scotts Valley
Adriana Trujillo	Records Clerk	City of San Jacinto
Mahealani Ah Yun	Deputy Clerk	City of Palo Alto
Maria Alaniz	City Clerk/HR Director	City of Dinuba
Vanessa Castillo	City Clerk Specialist	City of Indio
T'Ana Christiansen	Deputy City Clerk	City of Malibu
Kimberely Clark	Executive Assistant to the	City of Burbank
James Collin	City Clerk/Public Infor-	City of East Palo Alto
Kamille Garcia	Deputy City Clerk	City of Petaluma
Zulma Gemus	Administrative Secretary	City of Oceanside
Cheryl Link, CMC	Deputy City Clerk	City of San Jacinto
Avinta Madhukansh-	Deputy City Clerk	City of Hayward
Daniel McVey	Deputy City Clerk	City of Desert Hot Springs
Alexis Mejia	Assistant City Clerk	City of Salinas
Edward Rios	Senior Office Assistant	City of Santa Ana
Diana Sanchez	Administrative Assistant	City of Fort Bragg
Julia Tamayo	Senior Administrative As-	City of Orinda
Kayla Valdovinos	Program Specialist	City of Oceanside
Kelly Carpenter	Deputy Town Clerk	Town of Truckee





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## New IIMC Members - Welcome!

July 1 - November 30, 2022

### City Clerks Association of California, continued

Debra Fritz	Deputy City Clerk	City of La Verne
Janell Martin	Executive to the City	City of Atwater
Katherine Rhee	Records Management	City of Gardena
Diana Robles	Deputy City Clerk	City of Pomona
Melanie Rocha	Office Assistant	City of Aliso Viejo
Maggie Rodriguez	Interim Assistant City	City of Half Moon Bay
Darrick Ryser	Deputy City Clerk	City of Ventura
Carmen Santana	City Administrative Secre-	City of Gridley
Monique Saviez	Management Analyst	City of Sonoma
Rochelle Scott	Deputy City Clerk	City of Palmdale
Angela Vasquez	Deputy City Clerk	City of Fowler
Edgar Villanueva, Jr.	Administrative Analyst	City of Antioch
Angelica Aguirre	Office Specialist II	City of Simi Valley
Stefanie Ananthan	Deputy City Clerk	City of Concord
Rhonda Bolla	Deputy City Clerk	City of Santa Rosa
Socorro Chavez	City Clerk	City of California City
Susana Gallardo	Administrative Assistant	City of Fontana
Kimberly Isley	Clerk of the Board	San Diego Community
Megan Jimenez	Deputy City Clerk	City of San Clemente
Adilia Keller	City Clerk Technician	City of Roseville
Gloria Ledezma	Administrative Assistant	City of Hermosa Beach
Sahara Meisenheimer	Clerk of the Board Spe-	Orange Co. Transportation Auth.
Jazmine Miranda	Assistant City Clerk	City of South San Fran-
Mara Perez	Admin Assistant	City of Belmont
Christine Soo	Deputy City Clerk/	City of Duarte
Khaleah K. Bradshaw	City Clerk	City of Carson
Kourtney Cullors	Chief Deputy City Clerk	City of Carson
Andrea Flores	City Clerk	City of Barstow
Emily La	Deputy City Clerk	City of Pacifica
Haidi Muro	Deputy City Clerk	City of Pittsburgh
Candice Parker Trigg	Legislative Recorder	City of Oakland
Joy Marie S. Simarago	Deputy City Clerk	City of Carson
Renee Van Arsdale	Records Specialist	City of Huntington Beach



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## New IIMC Members - Welcome!

July 1 - November 30, 2022

### Oregon Association of Municipal Recordors

Angelique Nomie	Assistant City Recorder	City of Oregon City
Danelle Pack	Associate Member	
Aimee Amerson	Administrative Manger	City of Carlton
Hayley Brewster	Office Specialist	City of Aumsville
Bronte Dod	Administrative Assistant	City of Maupin
Lea Moyer	City Recorder	City of Fossil
Stacey Stockhoff	City Recorder	City of La GrandeC82
Koree Tate	Management Assistant	City of Roseburg
Christine L. Wolfe	City Recorder	City of Maupin
Elizabeth Gallagher	Deputy City Recorder	City of Newport
Grace McNeil	City Recorder	City of Creswell
Cindy M. Sarti	City Recorder	City of Winston
Natasha Tippetts	Deputy City Recorder	City of Brookings

### Washington Municipal Clerks Association

Andrea Fischer	Deputy City Clerk	City of Leavenworth
Kalyn Auelua	Deputy City Clerk	City of Maple ValleyC92
Patrick W. Bauguess	City Clerk/Training	City of Benton City
Katie Colvin	Administrative Clerk	City of Puyallup
Elizabeth Halili	Deputy City Clerk	City of Longview
Katey Hobbs	Administrative Assistant	City of Federal Way
Kara A. Johnson	City Clerk	City of Mukilteo
Tiffany Ostreim	City Clerk	City of Longview
Cherie Camp	Legislative Clerk	King County
Erika Guerrero	Deputy Clerk of the Board	County of Douglas
Michelle Kang	Deputy Clerk	City of Kenmore
Luke Lonie	City Clerk	City of Lynwood
Meagan Olds	Clerical Assistant/	Town of South Prairie
Jennifer Ivins	Deputy City Clerk	City of Buriem
Thao Nguyen Madsen	Boards & Commissions	City of Seattle
Alyssa Rodrigues	City Clerk	City of Port Townsend
Michelle Williams	Deputy City Clerk	City of Ferndale



# IIMC Region IX Winter 2023 Newsletter

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## Congratulations Master Municipal Clerks!

July 1 - November 30, 2022

### Master Municipal Clerk

#### California

Stacy Weaver, MMC

Stephanie Vasquez, MMC

Sylvia Edwards, MMC

Carolina Torres, MMC

Christina Franco, MMC

Wendi Gallatin-Gensel, MMC

Sheri Hartz, MMC

Kelsea Holian, MMC

Chowchilla

Eastvale

City of Corona

City of Yorba Linda

City of San RamonB6

City of Chino Hills

City of Emeryville

City of Coronado

#### Washington

Terri Wright, MMC

Heidi Napolitano, MMC

Kennewick

Town of Woodway



# IIMC Region IX Winter 2023 Newsletter

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## Congratulations Certified Municipal Clerks!

July 1 - November 30, 2022

### Certified Municipal Clerk

#### Alaska

Annika Woods, CMC

City of Kodiak

#### California

Andrea Sanders, CMC

Campbell

Ariana Cisneros, CMC

Chino Valley Fire District

Ashley Flores, CMC

SDRMA - Sacramento

Christina Rudsell, CMC

Barstow

Cynthia Cisneros, CMC

Cucamonga Valley Water Dist.

Dawn Miller, CMC

City of Colton

Debra Fuller, CMC

East Bay Regional Park District

Elizabeth Machado, CMC

City of Rohnert Park

Jennifer Poole-Eidd, CMC

City of Bellflower

Julia E. Espinoza, CMC

City of San Jacinto

Kelsea Holian, CMC

City of Coronado

Kim Snodgrass, CMC

Oakley

Kylynn Chaney, CMC

City of Palos Verdes Estates

Laura McDowall, CMC

City of Novato

Luz Reyes, CMC

Lake Elsinore B18

Maricela Cabral, CMC

Coachella Valley Water District

Marissa Asistin, CMC

Laguna Niguel

Neetu Salwan, CMC

City of Berkeley

Norma Mitre-Ramirez, CMC

Santa Ana

Rischa S. Cole, CMC

East Bay Municipal Utility Dist.

Sandra Barajas, CMC

City of Sunnyvale

Tania Flores, CMC

City of La Quinta

#### Oregon

Claudia Cisneros, CMC

McMinnville

Laural Casey, CMC

Oak Lodge Water Services District

Lori Lesmeister, CMC

City of North Plains

Melanie Masterfield, CMC

Sutherlin

Nanci Sandoval, CMC

Umatilla

#### Washington

Andrew Dacuag, CMC

Maple Valley

Carrie Lnenicka, CMC

City of Ephrata

Krystal Townsend, CMC

Kennewick

Krystal Townsend, CMC

Kennewick

Maria A. De Goede, CMC

La Conner

Mary Corey, CMC

Stevenson

Melanie Dickinson, CMC

Everson

Yvonne Hernandez, CMC

City of Othello



# IIMC Region IX Winter 2023 Newsletter

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## Greetings from IIMC President

Pamela Smith, MMC



Greetings Region IX Members!

As we acknowledge the closing of another year, may we reflect over our accomplishments, either work related or personal! Let's not dwell on those things that did not come to fruition but rejoice in a life well lived with those we love the most!

Let us learn from our mistakes and misgivings and take the plunge when a door opens no matter where that journey may take us and/or how uncomfortable we feel!

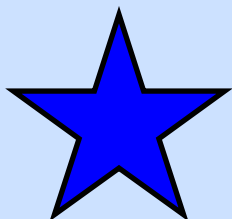
Life is all about the choices we make. Our situations are made by our choices! Don't be afraid to ask for that raise! Don't be afraid to request to attend your next educational session when it means being out of the office! This may require working a little harder!

Look at everything new in your life as an adventure and accept the opportunity with renewed gusto. Don't allow someone to get in your head and whisper that you cannot do something!!

2023 is a new exciting year that has open promises! It is up to us to recognize the blessings and opportunities that come our way! I would like to encourage you to become involved in your State organizations, as well as IIMC. Join a committee, become an Athenian, and look at running for District Director when the current terms are up.

The next steps to your success are up to you! It is easy to allow things to remain the same. Making changes is very hard. And even harder, is to stick to the path of making changes. I wish each of you the very best 2023 has to offer!!

Pamela Smith, MMC  
IIMC President



# IIMC Region IX Winter 2023 Newsletter

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## State Association Report

Brenda Henry, MMC, President, Alaska Association of Municipal Clerks



Hello from chilly but beautiful Alaska!

By the time you read this, I hope your holidays were spent with those who mean the most to you. To say that I am very excited to attend each Association's annual conference is an understatement. I look forward to seeing Clerk friends I already know and meeting new Clerk friends through my travels.

For AAMC's 2022 conference, it felt like the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Clerks were absolute rock stars! My friend and Clerk Lonnie McKechnie was chosen as the Clerk of the Year and I'm so happy for her. She really earned this distinguished award and has exhibited grace and determination in the face of a lot of adversity. Congratulations Lonnie. Your staff is so proud of you!

For my theme, I have chosen "Dare Greatly." This may remind you of a very popular author, but it was because of our 26th President that I chose this theme. I'd like to share my incoming presidential speech with you.

"What I'm about to say was first used in a speech 110 years ago at the Sorbonne in Paris on April 23, 1910, by President Theodore Roosevelt, a man whom I've long admired. I didn't get his permission to use this excerpt from his famous speech that came to be known as, "The Man in the Arena," but I like to think that T.R. would be flattered that I chose his words as my incoming remarks, even though I've tweaked them a bit.

"It's not the critic who counts; not the person who points out how a strong clerk stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better.

The credit goes to the clerk who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood. The clerk who strives valiantly, who errs, who comes up short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming.

The credit goes to the clerk who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends themselves in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if they fail, at least fails while DARING GREATLY, so that their place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."

I am honored to represent the Alaska Association of Municipal Clerks (AAMC) as President for 2023.

Brenda J. Henry, MMC  
AAMC President



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## State Association Report

Marc Donohue, MMC, President, City Clerks Association of California

Greetings from California! I'm excited to submit my first article to the members of IIMC Region IX. I was sworn in as the City Clerks Association of California President in September 2022. These first three months have been equally as exciting and productive!

In late September, I had the honor of representing CCAC at the annual Oregon Association of Municipal Records (OAMR) Annual Conference in beautiful Newport, Oregon! It was great connecting with our IIMC region representatives and the other State Presidents in our IIMC region. While the entire conference was great, I was particularly impressed with OAMR's fundraising and will definitely be stealing some of their tips and tricks for our upcoming annual conference in April.



State Presidents from California, Oregon, Washington, and Alaska (September 2022)

Earlier this month, I once again got to represent California at the Alaska Association of Municipal Clerks Annual Conference in the beautiful and very cold City of Anchorage. It was wonderful getting to know and network with all the Clerks and sharing ideas with my fellow State Presidents. Next stop is Washington in March!



State Presidents from California, Alaska, Washington, and Oregon (December 2022)

*Continued to next page.*

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## State Association Report *(continued from previous page)*

Marc Donohue, MMC, President, City Clerks Association of California

In California, the CCAC Board of Directors has been hard at work these past three months. We conducted our annual goal setting in September 2022 and adopted the framework for our new three-year strategic plan. We've also been hard at work on the following items:

- Updating our Board Policies
- Updating our City Clerks Handbook
- Releasing the Request for Proposals for our Education Institutes
- Starting the conversation to modify the timing of when our Board of Directors get sworn-in
- Discussion of a by-law amendment for Spring 2023 that will include several substantive changes

I'm also excited to announce that the registration for the upcoming CCAC annual conference is expected to open mid to late January! Our Conference Committee is hard at work planning an amazing conference! Can't wait to see everyone in Palm Springs in April.



Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season! If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at [mdonohue@eastvaleca.gov](mailto:mdonohue@eastvaleca.gov) or (951) 703-4421.





# IIMC Region IX Winter Newsletter

Alaska ★ California ★ Hawaii ★ Oregon ★ Washington

## State Association Report

Karin Johnson, MMC, President, Oregon Association of Municipal Recordors



I was sworn in at the OAMR conference in September – for the second time. (Yes, some of you may recognize me! I served as OAMR president in 2010-11.)

At our conference, we approved adoption of a Strategic Plan. We will have our first work session in January to put together an implementation plan. Goals of the plan include:

1. Enhancing member engagement through the inclusion of new OAMR members as well as reengaging existing/long-time members.
2. Identifying current and future member education needs.
3. Examining the current governance needs of the association, and propose actions that will improve member engagement at all levels of governance (i.e. committee structure, roles of board and committee members, etc.).

Also at the conference, we had to approve a new site for the 2023 Conference. Several sites were presented to the membership, and they approved to hold conference at Spirit Mtn. Lodge in Grand Ronde, Oregon. This will be our first conference in this area and at this facility – we are very much looking forward to getting together there!

OAMR continues to add to our IIMC Endowment for permanent scholarship funding. This year, we added \$4,000 to bring our total to well over \$18,000.00. We receive enough revenue to fund two scholarships to the NCI for Professional Development.

At the League of Oregon Cities Conference in October, their annual awards were presented. One of them, the Herman Kehrl Award, is the highest award that can be presented to a municipal employee. For the first time, a city recorder received the award – Peggy Hawker of Newport. Peggy is a past Region 9 Director, a Past President of both OAMR AND the Colorado Municipal Clerks Association. Truly deserving! Side note – her husband also won the award several years ago while he was the city manager for Lincoln City. The first wife/husband duo!

I look forward to continue working with our Region IX states, and encourage you to visit Oregon in September for our conference.

Karin Johnson, MMC  
OAMR President



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## State Association Report

Shawn Campbell, MMC, President, Washington Municipal Clerks Association



Hello Region IX! I have truly loved getting to come to each of your States over the last year. I hold those memories and new friendships dear. Thank you to everyone who reached out while I was in your State and made me feel welcome. I will never forget this adventure!

In Washington, we are finalizing all the “things” for our Spring Conference in March 2023! I would like to invite all of you to come to Skamania Lodge in Stevenson, Washington. We will start on March 14th with a choice between an Advanced Academy (Leading with Clarity, Compassion, and Collaboration, led by Anne Uecker) or Athenian Dialogue (Peggy Hawker will facilitate the book *Born a Crime: Stories of a South African Childhood* by Trevor Noah). Then the WMCA Spring Conference will start on Wednesday, March 15th with a Keynote Speaker Andy Masters sharing on “Embracing the Work-Life “Mix” with Higher Quality and Less Stress. We will close our conference on Friday March 17th with an interesting session by Jim Mathis on Reinventing Your Clerk’s Office: Get Used to Different. As you can see, we have an amazing adventure planned for everyone.

We held our Fall Education Days in September in Leavenworth, WA. We had Mary Lynn Stratta facilitate a phenomenal Athenian Dialogue on the book *Upstairs at the White House* by J. B West. It was enlightening to see how our jobs correlate. I have even used the term “I serve the office of the Mayor not the Mayor who is in the office” since then. Then we had an Academy Session by Karen Kirk on *The Lens Through Which We See the World*. We learned how our lives “color” what we see in the world and ways to mitigate and acknowledge those perspectives.

Hope to see many of you at Skamania Lodge!

Shawn Campbell, MMC  
WMCA President

**WMCA**  
**Annual Conference**  
**March 15 - 17, 2023**

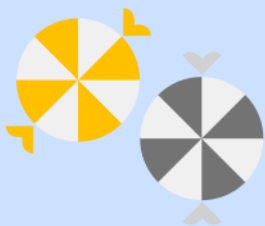


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## Clerks In Action

AAMC 2022



# IIMC Region IX Winter 2023 Newsletter

Alaska ★ California ★ Hawaii ★ Oregon ★ Washington

## Clerks In Action

OAMR 2022

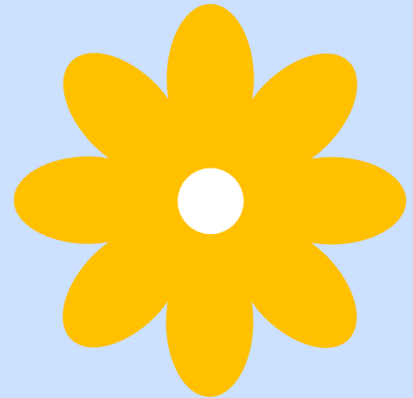


# IIMC Region IX Winter 2023 Newsletter

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## Clerks In Action

WMCA 2022



# IIMC Region IX Winter 2023 Newsletter

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## IIMC Foundation

Tracy Davis, MMC, IIMC Foundation Board Member



Happy 2023 Region IX! With a new year now upon us, new opportunities for professional growth and development will become available through IIMC, your professional development institutes, and your own state associations. Seek out these opportunities and turn your visions into accomplishments. The IIMC Foundation offers various scholarships throughout the year. Currently, IIMC is accepting applications for the annual IIMC conference registration grant. This grant allows 2 IIMC members from each of IIMC's twelve regions to attend the IIMC annual conference. The 2023 IIMC annual conference will be held in Minneapolis, MN beginning on May 14th. Applications are now being accepted until February 12, 2023. Additional scholarship opportunities for in person learning and online sessions will be available later in 2023.

You may be curious to know how the IIMC Foundation can provide these scholarship opportunities. Recently, IIMC Executive Director Chris Shalby produced an article for the IIMC News Digest and IIMC Briefings titled "IIMC Foundation – Fact, Fiction, and More Facts". Director Shalby provides an in depth look at the Foundation's mission and how it functions. You can read this article in the [December IIMC News Digest](#). However, the short answer to this question is the Foundation is a non-profit volunteer-based organization that serves as the fundraising arm of IIMC with a sole mission to raise dollars for Clerk education. Funds are raised through donations and other activities throughout the year. Currently, the IIMC Foundation is offering an opportunity to win four nights lodging and one free conference registration package for the upcoming IIMC conference in Minneapolis valued at \$1600. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$25 and can be purchased on the IIMC Foundation website ([www.iimcfoundation.com](http://www.iimcfoundation.com)). Deadline to purchase tickets is February 14, 2023.

The Foundation truly appreciates each and every dollar donated to our mission. When you renew your IIMC membership, please consider including the extra \$25 voluntary donation to the Foundation. Another easy way to support the Foundation is to choose the IIMC Foundation through Amazon Smile. By choosing IIMC Foundation as your charity to support, Amazon will donate 0.5% of all eligible purchases to the Foundation – at no extra cost to you.

Thank you, Region IX. You are truly an inspiration to so many of the other Regions. Your commitment and dedication does not go unnoticed. If I can provide any information about the Foundation, our mission, or how you can help out, please do not hesitate to contact me. As always Region IX Rocks!

Tracy Davis, MMC  
City Recorder – Keizer, Oregon  
IIMC Foundation Board Member  
[davist@keizer.org](mailto:davist@keizer.org)

# IIMC Region IX Winter 2023 Newsletter

Alaska ★ California ★ Hawaii ★ Oregon ★ Washington

## Candidate for IIMC First Vice President

Dawn G. Abrahamson, MMC



## Dawn G. Abrahamson, MMC FOR IIMC VICE PRESIDENT 2023

*Focusing on Growth & Well-Being of IIMC to Benefit the Members*

### WHY IS IMPORTANT FOR ME TO SERVE AS IIMC VICE PRESIDENT

- **Paying it Forward** - the term “*paying it forward*” has been used and heard a lot. However, this is so very true and central to my value system - it is one of the many reasons why it is important for me to be the next Vice President of IIMC. I want to **share the passion, knowledge and experience** with current members and the next generation of municipal clerks that so many leaders have invested and instilled in me over my 35-year career in local government.
- **Continue to Build International Relationships** – the first *I* in IIMC is International, and it is important to continue to foster and build upon the relationships already established. Region X and XI members should equally be represented on every IIMC committee, which are the backbone of our organization. We have a lot to learn from our International members, particularly in the area of education, and I am committed to fostering these relationships, ensuring representation on every IIMC Committee by openly embracing their ideas, learn from their knowledge and educational forums to move IIMC forward in a progressive manner.
- **Certification, Education & Network** – these three go together. As a life-long learner and current core trainer at one of California’s institutes, Technical Training for Clerks (TTC), and facilitator and trainer at the Northern and Central California Nuts & Bolts Workshop, education and certification are one of the many reasons why members join IIMC. Networking opportunities are instrumental at each and every educational forum. As a member of IIMC, we pledge commitment to professional development in the municipal government field and I am committed to ensuring education programs and certification are open and available to every member.
- **Open Communication and Active Listening to IIMC Members** – IIMC is a member driven professional organization and, as an organization, is only successful if the members are active, heard and understood. I am committed to actively listening first, asking clarifying questions, and understanding your wishes, perspectives, and concerns for your membership with IIMC to be meaningful. While I cannot predict future change will be accomplished, I pledge to do my research, find out the facts, and explain the reasons why either something can or cannot change.

**Get to Know Dawn** - I invite each and every IIMC member to reach out to me and get to know me. I am a person of integrity and honesty - and seek to listen first, working to build consensus to achieve successful outcomes. I am a person you can trust to represent you as a member of IIMC with the utmost professionalism.

I hope you will consider me when voting for IIMC Vice President.

### Contact Dawn:

Phone: (925) 989-5674

<https://www.dawnforiimcvp.com/>



# IIMC Region IX Winter 2023 Newsletter

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## Candidate for IIMC First Vice President

Janice Bates, MMC



I am Just Like You!

For those of you I have not yet met, I am Janice Bates and I am the Clerk of Council for the City of Tipp City, Ohio. I am seeking the office of IIMC Vice President because it is my goal in helping members become successful in an ever-changing world. Prior to working for the City, I taught a variety of students at the college level. Today, that passion continues by educating others through my roles as an Athenian Dialogue Facilitator, an Education Session Presenter, and Mentor. I maintain my own professional growth by continuously being trained, mentored and guided by everyone whom I come into contact with. It is those experiences that I will take to the IIMC Executive Board. I am a huge advocate in continuing education and believe that everyone, despite their job title, should never stop learning! I am a common-sense leader with the experience that is needed to make our members' voices the sound of the future. I will listen to you, because I understand what it is like to speak and not be heard. I want each and every one of our members to be heard loud and clear. I also understand that it takes a highly motivated person to do this job and that each of our members are an integral part of our organization! Remember—I am just like all of you and I truly love being a Municipal Clerk! All of our professional experiences and personal struggles have been learning experiences in building our own unique stories. You are both the backbone and heart of every municipality.

I am running for the very important seat of IIMC Vice President because I love this profession, organization, and especially all of our members. My passion, drive, and forward-thinking ability gives me the confidence to effectively move IIMC into the future. Let's work together as one phenomenal team over the next four years to take this extraordinary organization to the next level!

"The best leaders lead for EVERYONE. Why would we marginalize ourselves by focusing on half of the world when we can have real impact by focusing on the entire population? This is a time of fresh thinkers who are challenging entrenched power and valuing inclusivity over divisiveness, action over reaction. And none of us is disqualified for leading for any reason. Each of us is an influencer." – Billie Jean King

### Accomplishments:

- ✓ Over a decade in Municipal Government
- ✓ Credentialed Municipal Clerk
- ✓ Served on the Ohio Municipal Clerks Association (OMCA) Board
- ✓ Served as OMCA President
- ✓ Served on the IIMC Board of Directors as Region V Director
- ✓ Athenian Dialogue Facilitator
- ✓ Education Session Facilitator, Speaker and Presenter
- ✓ Peer-to-Peer Mentor
- ✓ Professional
- ✓ Balanced
- ✓ Results Oriented



# IIMC Region IX Winter 2023 Newsletter

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## Candidate for IIMC First Vice President

Stephen Huycke, CMC



### Stephen Huycke, CMC for IIMC Vice President

City Clerk  
Richmond Hill, Ontario Canada

*Inspiring leadership  
International perspective*

Hello Region IX

Thank you to your awesome Region Directors Ruth and Jamie for the opportunity it introduce myself and the reason I am running to be your next IIMC Vice President.

I am a municipal leader with more than 13 years of experience in local government, currently serving as City Clerk for the City of Richmond Hill Ontario. I was born and raised in Toronto, Canada. The eldest of four children, from a young age I developed a deep sense of commitment to serving others both at home and in the broader community. This commitment to service guides everything I do as a municipal leader and IIMC Member.

*"If serving others is beneath you, leading others is beyond you."*

I have been very fortunate in my life and career to have people recognize and encourage my talents, and give me opportunities to grow into the leader I am today. I want to do the same for others. I want to make sure IIMC continues to do the same for each of you.

I am running to work with all members, the Board and IIMC staff to:

- **grow and enhance our international partnerships, while respecting the unique characteristics of the international associations**
- **ensure that IIMC continues to grow, diversify and modernize its educational programs**
- **continues to build an inclusive association that celebrates and respects diversity**
- **explore new and exciting ways to engage our Associate Members and others who are the local government leaders of the future.**
- **ensure that IIMC uses its resources in a fiscally sustainable way, and directs those resources to achieve well defined strategic outcomes.**

What does it look like to achieve these goals? That is up to you! I am only one member. The future and success needs to be defined by all of us.

I invite you to get to know me, share your ideas on the future of IIMC, and **Stay Connected.**

<https://www.stephenforiimcvp.com>

[stephen@stephenforiimcvp.com](mailto:stephen@stephenforiimcvp.com)

# IIMC Region IX Winter 2023 Newsletter

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## Region IX Leadership

### Contact Information

#### IIMC REGION IX DIRECTORS

Jamie Newman, MMC  
City Clerk - City of Wasilla, AK  
(907) 373-9090  
[jnewman@cityofwasilla.gov](mailto:jnewman@cityofwasilla.gov)  
Term expires May 2025

Ruth Post, MMC  
City Recorder - City of Philomath, OR  
(541) 929-6148  
[ruth.post@philomathoregon.gov](mailto:ruth.post@philomathoregon.gov)  
Term expires May 2024

#### REGION IX STATE PRESIDENTS

##### Alaska Association of Municipal Clerks

Brenda Henry, MMC  
Asst. Borough Clerk – Matanuska-Susitna Borough  
(907) 861-8684  
[brenda.henry@matsugov.us](mailto:brenda.henry@matsugov.us)  
Term: Dec. 2022 – Dec. 2023

#### FIRST VICE PRESIDENTS

April Trickey, MMC  
Fairbanks North Star Borough  
(907) 459-1401  
[april.trickey@fnsb.gov](mailto:april.trickey@fnsb.gov)  
Term: Dec. 2022 – Dec. 2023

##### City Clerks Association of California

Marc Donohue, MMC  
City Clerk/Comm. Dir. – City of Eastvale  
(951) 703-4421  
[mdonohue@eastvaleca.gov](mailto:mdonohue@eastvaleca.gov)  
Term: Sept. 2022 - Sept. 2023

Jessica Blair, MMC  
Comm. Dir./City Clerk – City of Half Moon Bay  
(650) 726-8271  
[jblair@hmbcity.com](mailto:jblair@hmbcity.com)  
Term: Sept. 2022 – Sept. 2023

##### Oregon Association of Municipal Recorders

Karin Johnson, MMC  
City Recorder – City of Independence  
(503) 837-1172  
[kjohnson@ci.independence.or.us](mailto:kjohnson@ci.independence.or.us)  
Term: Sept. 2022 - Sept. 2023

Nanci Sandoval, CMC  
City Recorder – City of Umatilla  
(541) 922-3226 x105  
[nanci@umatilla-city.org](mailto:nanci@umatilla-city.org)  
Term: Sept. 2022 – Sept. 2023

##### Washington Municipal Clerks Association

Shawn Campbell, MMC  
City Clerk - City of Auburn  
(253) 931-3055  
[scampbell@auburnwa.gov](mailto:scampbell@auburnwa.gov)  
Term: Mar. 2022 - Mar. 2023

Lisa Neissl, MMC  
City Clerk - City of Walla Walla  
(509) 527-4424  
[lneissl@wallawallawa.gov](mailto:lneissl@wallawallawa.gov)  
Term: Mar. 2022 - Mar. 2023

#### IIMC PRESIDENT

Pamela Smith, MMC  
Exec. Assist/Leg. Admin., Lee County, FL  
(239) 533-2224  
[psmith2@leegov.com](mailto:psmith2@leegov.com)  
Term: May 2022 - May 2023

#### IIMC PRESIDENT ELECT

Mary Ann Hess, MMC  
City Clerk/Finance Dir. – City of Laurel  
(601) 428-6430  
[maryannahess@laurelms.com](mailto:maryannahess@laurelms.com)  
Term: May 2022 – May 2023