



The Clerk Connection

Delaware Municipal Clerks Association

[@delawaremunicipalclerks](https://twitter.com/delawaremunicipalclerks)

SEPTEMBER 2018

President's Message

Christine Crouch, CMC

Who else thinks fall is the BEST time of year? After a sweltering summer of seemingly endless grass cutting, garden tending and beach traffic, autumn is a welcome reprieve! Layer on the clothes, grab a pumpkin spice, well, anything, and enjoy the awesome cooler air. Who's with me?!

While we wait for the break in temperatures, I want to express my sincere appreciation for each and every one you. Your membership in DMCA connects the people in this profession both physically and by electronic means. Attending the four meetings per year helps to solidify the bonds of friendship, mentorship and collaboration. Regardless of whether you are just starting out as a Clerk or could be considered a subject matter expert, we each can learn something from one another. Please find the time in your schedule to make the meetings. You won't be disappointed.

*"Individual commitment to a group effort -- that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work."
- Vince Lombardi*

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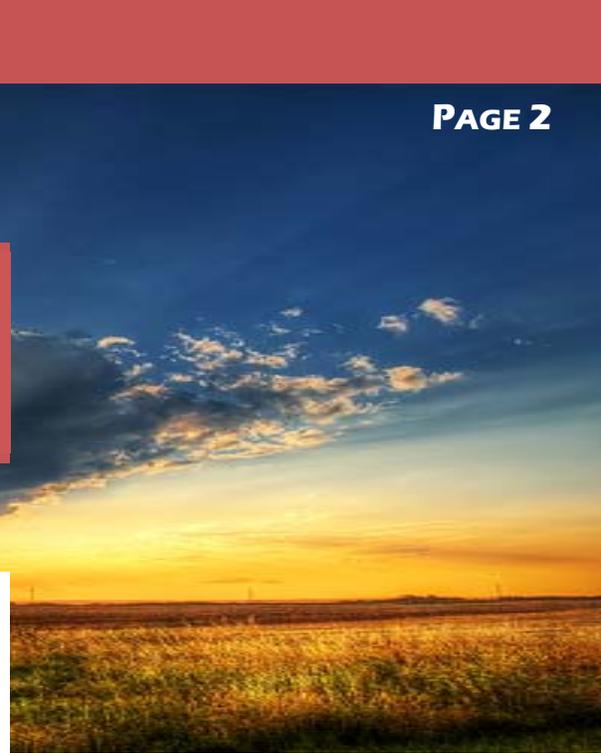


Looking Ahead

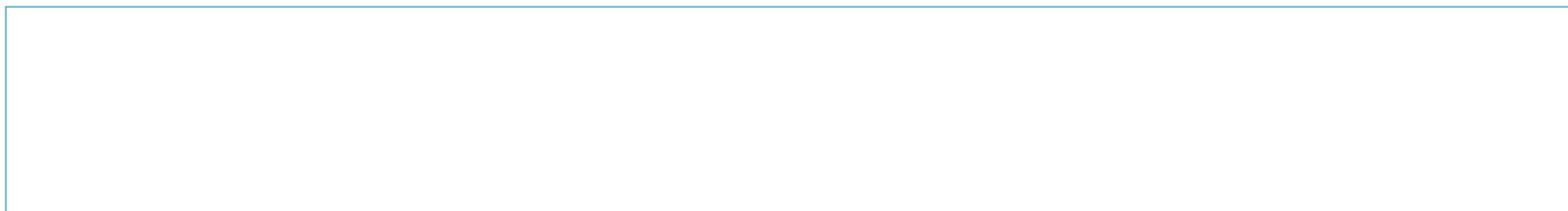
It's not too early to be thinking about December. No – not Christmas! The December DMCA Meeting! Not only do we have a fun voluntary gift exchange, but we also volunteer for committees. Serving on a committee, or better yet *Chairing* a committee, earns you easy points toward your CMC or MMC certification. Most committees conduct business via email or phone calls, so it couldn't be easier! So get those hands up high at the December quarterly meeting!



Nominations for Officers will be accepted at the December 20 quarterly meeting. If you would like to be considered, but are unable to attend the meeting, send an email to Christine Crouch, City of Milford, at CCrouch@milford-de.gov. Serving as an Officer on the Board earns you extra points toward your CMC or MMC!



Thinking of attending the annual University of Delaware Clerk's Institute in 2019? DMCA offers scholarships to one member seeking their CMC and one member seeking their MMC! *Cha-Ching!!* Plan to attend a few quarterly meetings to learn more!



On Point

CLERK OF THE YEAR

Nominations for Clerk of the Year were due August 1 and the Committee received 8 nominations!

The winner will be announced at the September 20 quarterly meeting and will be presented their award at the September 27 Delaware League of Local Government's dinner at the Duncan Center in Dover. Every clerk is encouraged to attend the dinner that evening to support and congratulate the winner.

The Clerk of the Year Committee wishes to send a big thank you to **Kelly Blanchies** (Harrington) for chairing this year! According to members, she took the bull by the horns, went with it, got everything done and it was smooth sailing. Great job Kelly ~ we appreciate you!



Mentor Program

If you have 15+ years of experience in your current position and are willing to mentor a DMCA member with less than 5 years of experience, please reach out to an officer and let them know.

We currently have 8 members with 15+ years of experience and 13 members with less than 5 years of experience, some of whom have expressed an interest in a mentor.

News to Know

Education

Have you signed up for the Athenian Dialogue on September 22? Contact Diana Reed (Elsmere) for more information!

The Education Committee is also investigating a possible day long education session for October. More details to follow.

The Education Committee has been working to provide quality educational courses for DMCA members while offering points earning opportunities for those seeking their Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) or Master Municipal Clerk (MMC) designations. The Committee has also opened educational sessions to non-DMCA members for a fee.

If you have any ideas for upcoming education sessions or want any additional information, contact Education Committee Chair Kelly Blanchies at kblanchies@cityofharrington.com.



Published for Clerks by Clerks!

If you have any great news to share, pictures to add or ideas for articles for the next edition, be sure to email them to Christine Crouch, City of Milford, CCrouch@milford-de.gov.

See a correction in the newsletter? Please contact Christine Crouch, City of Milford, CCrouch@milford-de.gov.

SAVE THE DATE

09/20/18 DMCA Quarterly Meeting @ Milford, 12:00 noon

09/22/18 Athenian Dialogue @ Newark City Hall, 9am-4pm

09/27/18 Cle

The expert in anything was once a beginner.

rk of the Year Award Presentation @ DLLG Dinner, Duncan Center, 5pm

12/20/18 DMCA Quarterly Meeting @ Elsmere, Time TBD

01/16/19-01/18/19 IIMC Region II

Officers and Committees

Executive Committee:

President [Christine Crouch](#), CMC

Deputy City Clerk, Milford

Vice President [Renee Bensley](#), CMC

City Clerk, Newark

Treasurer [Diana Reed](#), CMC

Administrative Assistant to the Town Manager, Elsmere

Secretary [Kelly Blanchies](#)

Clerk of Council, Harrington

Past President [Tracy Torbert](#)

Executive Secretary, Seaford

DMCA Committees:

Audit Committee

Clerk of the Year Committee

Education Committee

Nomination Committee

Region II Conference Committee

Scholarship (CMC) Committee

Scholarship (MMC) Committee

Website/Facebook Committee

Mission and Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be to promote professional development through continuing education and networking opportunities of its members to use their abilities, talents and strengths in the proficient and effective delivery of local government services; and to promote the purposes defined in the Constitution of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC), and by:

- a. Promoting cooperation among Municipals through the DMCA, through the interchange of experiences and methods of conducting their offices, to the end that each may profit from the experiences of others; and
- b. Cultivating and promoting a better understanding of the functions and responsibilities of the clerk;
- c. Gathering and disseminating information to improve the procedures and professional image of the clerk;
- d. Offering professional development opportunities for clerks;
- e. Promoting periodic conferences or meetings of Municipal Clerks through the DMCA and IIMC for discussion of problems, and by research to find solutions for same.