



## Massachusetts Town Clerks' Association

# The Public Recorder

Volume 58, No. 17

JUNE 2015

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### From the President, Andrew T. Dowd

**T**hank you! I look forward to serving as MTCA President during the next two years. The weather gods were really good to us this year during time at SeaCrest. I hope those that attended had an opportunity to soak up a little natural vitamin D in addition to attending some valuable education sessions. It was nice to see so many retired Clerks join us for Thursday's banquet. We all enjoyed some good laughs after dinner with comedian Juston (yes, it's spelled Juston...) McKinney. Laughter really is good medicine! I thoroughly enjoyed having my own family present along with so many Clerks who are like family to me. Thank you all for your support!

One of my goals is to communicate frequently with the members of our association, especially when important issues come up. I will duplicate messages sent via the Yahoo Group, VRIS e-mail, [www.masstownclerks.org](http://www.masstownclerks.org), and on our Facebook Group:

M a s s a c h u -  
setts Town Clerks' Association. If you would like to be added to the Facebook Group, please e-mail me: [ad-owd@town.northborough.ma.us](mailto:ad-owd@town.northborough.ma.us) and provide the e-mail address you use to login to Facebook.

Like many of you, I'm challenged with limited staff in the office, for that rea-



*MTCA President, Andy Dowd being sworn in by Oxford Town Clerk Lori Kelley. Also in picture is Andy's wife Barbara, sons Jack and Alex, and daughter Molly.*

son, communication by e-mail usually works best. That being said, e-mail systems are not perfect, I know our servers here often "blacklist" other communities, causing failed delivery of messages. In general the e-mail on the State's Voter Registration system (VRIS) is the most dependable, please remember to check that system frequently.

Thank you!

Andy Dowd,  
MTCA President 2015-2017

## BEACON HILL REPORT

by Thomas Joyce, Esq.

Governor Charlie Baker is remarkably the most popular Governor of the Commonwealth in recent times. Historically, newly elected Governors enjoy a “honeymoon period” for a few months. After nearly six months in the corner office, according to public opinion polls the Governor enjoys extremely high marks for his job performance. After inheriting a 1.5 billion dollar budget deficit and managing state transportation system failures, Baker has worked tirelessly to provide thoughtful leadership in solving those tremendous issues.

During this legislative session, strong differences of opinion remain between Senate and House leaders. As reported earlier, a contentious dispute on how to handle the thousands of bills filed this session has developed into the Senate seeking best practices from other jurisdictions in creating its own separate committees. On another front, with the House constitutionally charged with being the only branch to initiate tax bills, the Senate decided to use its fiscal budget proposal to decide state income tax policy. As a counter to this move, the House asked our Supreme Judicial Court (SJC) for an advisory opinion on the tax issue presented. The SJC has promised to issue their opinion by month's end.

A six-member conference committee led by Representative Brian Dempsey and Senator Karen Spilka is now working out the differing House and Senate versions of the fiscal budget. The one issue of interest to us is the Senate proposal to create a Secure Vitals Record Trust fund. We should know the fate of that issue by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

It was a pleasure to address you at your Conference at the Sea Crest in Falmouth last week. For me, it was highlighted by naming Representative John Mahoney as MTCA Legislator of the Year. John is a former small business owner whom understands the issues facing town clerks in the everyday operation of your offices. In his position as the House Chairman of the Joint Committee on Election Laws, John will be working on scores of bills that may impact us.



*From left to right: MTCA Lobbyist Tom Joyce, Legislator of the Year Representative John Mahoney, and MTCA Past President Nancy Blackmer*

As I told you at Sea Crest, I anticipate our legislative agenda to ramp up over the next few months. I also expect more focus on the Elections Task Force as the Presidential election draws near.

I will keep you informed as things develop. I wish all of you a wonderful summer.

## From the Past President, Nancy M. Blackmer

Congratulations and good luck to our new President, Andy Dowd. It has been a pleasure working with you and the other officers and E-Board members over the last two years. I am sure you will all do a great job. I also want to thank all the members of the MTCA for their support over the years. I ask you to continue to support this new slate of officers. This is a great organization and I am proud to be a member of this Association.

We will not be back at Sea Crest next year. While the location was beautiful, they continued to increase the prices and we decided that we cannot keep expecting our towns to pay those prices. We will be in Plymouth next June and I look forward to the new location. We have had several changes over the last year – Springfield, Devens, and now Plymouth. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President is in charge of finding locations for our conferences. It is not an easy task to find a location with enough guest rooms and conference room

space. When I served as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, we tried several different locations and they ended up being too small for our needs. We try to hold the conferences in three different areas of the state to give everyone the opportunity to attend at least one conference, even if it is just for the day.

If you are planning on attending NEMCI&A, please make sure you have registered. If you have never attended, it is a great experience. If you cannot attend this year, start planning for next year. If your town will not cover the cost, please remember there are scholarships available – watch The Public Recorder and the MTCA website for the application and details.

Thank you all again for your support, without all of you I could not have done this job.

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## OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN & POLITICAL FINANCE

### Everyone on the ballot files the post-election report

Local election officials often ask OCPF about who needs to file post-election reports for spring elections. The answer is simple – every candidate on the ballot, including write-ins and unsuccessful candidates, should file a post-election report, due 30 days after the election.

The post-election report covers the day after the ending date on the pre-election report until 20 days after the election. Reports must be filed even if no money was raised or spent during the post-election reporting period.

If the post-election report due date has already past in your town, it's not too late for non-filers to submit their reports. Many local election officials will notify

late filers by phone or in person, and then mail written reminders if the reports are still not filed. Please call OCPF at 617-979-8300 with any questions about notifying non-filers.

## IIMC

### By Carol Anderson, Region One Director

Greetings from IIMC!

Region One Clerks are still glowing from a very successful IIMC Annual Conference held in Hartford this past May 17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>. It was a great honor to have clerks from all over the world come to our Region, get to know us and share in this event. It was amazing to say the least!



*Our Bay State was well represented with 19 Clerks in attendance.*

Here are some of my favorite experiences from the conference:

We had top-notch presenters – my favorite was Warren Macdonald, describing his climb to the summit of Africa's tallest peak, Mt. Kilimanjaro *as a double above-knee amputee!* His relentless 'Can-Do' attitude was a tremendous inspiration to the crowd of 600 Municipal Clerks gathered there.

The conference was packed with world-class educators instructing Technology, Minutes Writing, Ethics, Diversity, Motivation Skills, Leadership, Records Management and Communication to name a few. My favorite was a Writing Boot Camp taught by Assoc. Prof. Mary Collins from Central Connecticut State University. I'll take *anything* that makes my job easier!

You can't beat the experience of networking with clerks from around the world, from the frustrations in Amsterdam to the accolades received by the UK clerks' reception at *Buckingham Palace*, it's wonderful to hear and share stories with our fellow clerks.

I'll send you more information about IIMC Annual Conferences in future editions of this newsletter, especially regarding scholarship opportunities. Do not dismiss the possibility of attending an IIMC Annual Conference! Like Warren Macdonald climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro, we're going to get you there!

Until next edition, have a very happy and safe Independence Day!

Best Regards,

Carol Anderson, MCTC, CMC  
Region One Director



### MTCA CONFERENCES

#### MTCA FALL CONFERENCE

**SEPTEMBER 30 - OCTOBER 2, 2015**

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ONE MONARCH PLACE, SPRINGFIELD, MA  
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## MTCA OFFICERS



*From left to right: Marie Ryan, 2nd Vice President; Jeremy Gillis, 1st Vice President; Andrew Dowd, President; Robert Cutler, Treasurer; and Danielle Sicard, Secretary*

## RETIRED TOWN CLERKS at SEACREST



*From left to right: James Mullen, Milton; Jean McGillicuddy, Carver; Linda Hutchenrider, Barnstable; Ellen Gaboury, Auburn; Eileen Gates, Middleborough; Nancy Morrison, West Bridgewater; Nancy Butler, Plympton; Jane Hibbert, Yarmouth; and Maureen Clark, Grafton.*

## MTCA 2015-2016 APPOINTMENTS

*All terms run July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup> unless otherwise noted.*

	MEMBER	MUNICIPALITY	LAST APPT	TERM EXP.
<b>ASSISTANT TREASURER</b>	<i>(1 year - to serve on Budget Committee)</i>			
	Lynn Sibley	Whately	2015	2016
<b>BUDGET COMMITTEE</b>	<i>(1 year- 5 members to include Treasurer &amp; Asst. Treasurer)</i>			
	Robert Cutler, <i>Treasurer</i>	Foxborough	2014	2016
	Lynn Sibley, <i>Assistant Treasurer</i>	Whately	2015	2016
	Thomas Florence	E. Longmeadow	2014	2015
	Danielle Sicard	Norton	2015	2016
	Michael Palmer	Falmouth	2014	2016
<b>BY-LAW/POLICIES &amp; PROCEDURES REVIEW COMMITTEE</b>	<i>(1 year)</i>			
	Deborah Davenport	Weston	2014	2015
	Denise MacAloney	Westminster	2014	2016
	Marie Ryan	Great Barrington	2014	2016
	Anita Tekle	Concord	2014	2016
	Amy Warfield	Burlington	2014	2016
<b>CMMC CERTIFICATION ADMINISTRATOR</b>	<i>(3 years – to serve on Certification/Examination Board)</i>			
	Barbara LaBombard	Easthampton	2014	2017
<b>CMMC CERTIFICATION/EXAMINATION BOARD</b>	<i>(3 years – 5 members including Certification Admin.)</i>			
	Madaline I. Bonadies	Southbridge	2012	2018
	Barbara LaBombard	Easthampton	2014	2017
	Denise MacAloney	Westminster	2014	2017
	Sandra Burgess	Amherst	2013	2016
	Marianne Staples	Mansfield	2013	2016
<b>CLERK'S MANUAL COMMITTEE</b>	<i>(3 years – 3 members)</i>			
	Deborah Dami	Mashpee	2014	2017
	Kathleen Nagle	Wellesley	2014	2017
	Marie Ryan	Great Barrington	2014	2017
<b>CONFERENCE COMMITTEE</b>	<i>(2-years) (Pres., 1<sup>st</sup> VP, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Registration Admin, Ed. Registration Admin, 3 at-large, including statistician)</i>			
	Andrew Dowd, President/Chair	Northborough	2015	2017
	Jeremy Gillis, 1 <sup>st</sup> VP - vendors	Easton	2015	2017
	Marie Ryan, 2 <sup>nd</sup> VP - hotel	Great Barrington	2015	2017
	Barbara LaBombard, Conf./Ed. Regis. Admin	Easthampton	2013	2016
	Kaari Mai Tari	Westford	2013	NA
	Diane Bucco	Wenham	2015	2017
	Terri Bunce	Dennis	2015	2017
	Dottie Powers	Westwood	2015	2017
<b>CONFERENCE REGISTRATION ADMINISTRATOR</b>	<i>(3 years – to serve on Conference Committee)</i>			
	Barbara LaBombard	Easthampton	2013	2016
<b>EDUCATION DATABASE COORDINATOR</b>	<i>(3 years)</i>			
	Katherine Ingram	Longmeadow	2013	2016
<b>EDUCATION COMMITTEE</b>	<i>(3-years, to include 2<sup>nd</sup> VP)</i>			
	Jacqueline Brown	Freetown	2014	2017
	Amy Summers	Stoughton	2014	2016
	Dottie Powers	Westwood	2015	2016
	Laura Torti	Spencer	2015	2018
	Debra Gremo	Auburn	2015	2018
	Kaari Mai Tari	Westford	2014	2017
	Marie Ryan, 2 <sup>nd</sup> VP	Great Barrington	2015	2017

### MTCA 2015-2016 APPOINTMENTS

<b>LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE</b> <i>(7 full for 3-year terms; 2 Alternates incl. 1<sup>st</sup> VP for 1-year – exp. Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>)</i>				
	Robert Cutler	Foxborough	2012	2018
	Denise Graffeo	Tewksbury	2013	2018
	Nancy Talbot	Ware	2013	2016
	Brian Howard	Randolph	2013	2016
	Dina Livingston	East Bridgewater	2014	2018
	Diane Packer	Natick	2014	2017
	Robin Phelan	Boxford	2014	2017
	Christina Wright, <i>Alt</i>	Essex	2014	2016
	Jeremy Gillis, <i>1<sup>st</sup> VP/Alt</i>	Easton	2015	2017
<b>NOMINATION COMMITTEE</b> <i>(1 year – 5 full members, to include 1<sup>st</sup> VP as non-voting)</i>				
	Theodora Eaton	Needham	2014	2016
	Nancy Blackmer	Orange	2015	2016
	Margaret Bonderenko	Mendon	2014	2016
	Lynn Sibley	Whately	2014	2016
	Kaari Mai Tari	Westford	2014	2016
	Jeremy Gillis, <i>1<sup>st</sup> VP</i>	Easton	2015	2016
<b>PUBLIC RECORDER EDITOR</b> <i>(3 years)</i>				
	Nancy Burnham	Athol	2014	2017
<b>SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE</b> <i>(2 years – 3, including 1<sup>st</sup> VP as Chair))</i>				
	Jeremy Gillis, <i>1<sup>st</sup> VP/Chair</i>	Easton	2015	2017
	Marlene Chused	Sharon	2013	2017
	Sandra Burgess	Amherst	2013	2017
<b>SOCIAL SECRETARY</b> <i>(1 year)</i>				
	Tara Morrison	Plympton	2014	2015
<b>COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE</b> <i>(3 years – 5 members, including The Public Recorder Editor)</i>				
	Nancy Burnham, <i>Public Recorder Editor</i>	Athol	2014	2017
	Jeremy Gillis	Easton	2014	2017
	Maria Sagarino	Stoneham	2013	2018
	Danielle Sicard	Norton	2014	2016
	Amy Warfield	Burlington	2012	2018
<b>LOBBYIST REVIEW COMMITTEE –</b> <i>(3 members, - including Treasurer)</i>				
	Robert Cutler, <i>Treasurer</i>	Foxborough	2014	2016
	Danielle Sicard	Norton	2015	2016
	Diane Packer	Natick	2014	2016
<b>MEMBER RECOGNITION COMMITTEE</b> <i>(3 years – 5 members – including President and Past President)</i>				
	Deborah Dami	Mashpee	2014	2018
	Theodora Eaton	Needham	2014	2016
	Sandra Burgess	Amherst	2014	2017
<b>ELECTION LAWS TASK FORCE</b> <i>(1 member)</i>				
	Jeremy Gillis	Easton	2014	
<b>TASK FORCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE</b> <i>(5 members)</i>				
	Ann Dunne	Ashfield	2014	
	Denise MacAloney	Westminster	2014	
	Rosemary Harvell	Sudbury	2014	
	Tedi Eaton	Needham	2014	
	Joyce Bradshaw	North Andover	2012	



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*- Mary-Ellen Lannon Town Clerk of Winchester*

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# Newsletter of the MTCA

584 Main Street  
Athol MA 01331



## **Massachusetts Town Clerks Association**

### **President**

Andrew T. Dowd, CMC/CMMC, Northborough

### **First Vice-President**

Jeremy P. Gillis, MMC/CMMC, Easton

### **Second Vice-President**

Marie Y. Ryan, CMC/CMMC, Great Barrington

### **Secretary**

Danielle Sicard, Norton

### **Treasurer**

Robert E. Cutler, Jr., CMC, Foxborough

### **Editor**

Nancy E. Burnham, CMMC, Athol

## **The Public Recorder**

The Public Recorder is published monthly August to June by the Massachusetts Town Clerks' Association for its membership.

Closing date for copy submission is the FIRST DAY of each month. All news, notes, clippings, meeting notices, and address corrections should be sent to Editor Nancy E. Burnham, 584 Main Street, Athol MA 01331

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