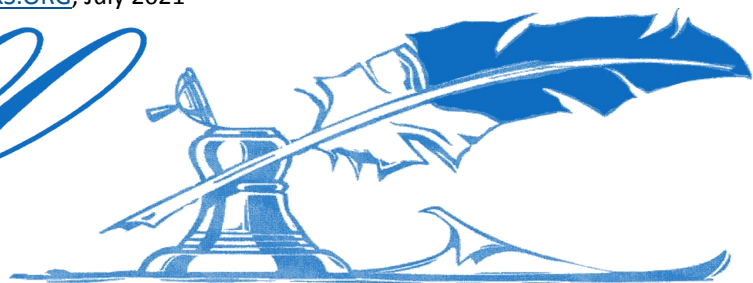


The Quill



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
EILEEN GORE



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2020 CLERK OF THE YEAR
DAINA DALE OF HARVEY CEDARS



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2021 CLERK OF THE YEAR
MICHELE SEIGFRIED OF ROBBINSVILLE



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Annual Meeting

Highlights



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A Message from Out- Going MCANJ President Eileen Gore

Let me begin by expressing my excitement and gratitude that we were able to gather together for our Annual Meeting. It has certainly been a long 14 months, but we're finally coming out on the other side of this pandemic. And while Zoom was a great communication tool, there was nothing better than seeing everyone under one roof.

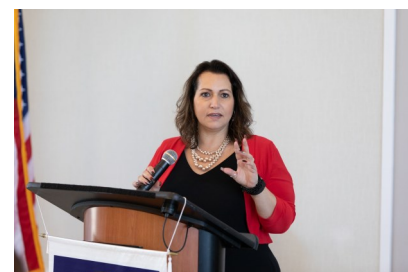
I would like recognize and thank Governor Murphy for his unyielding leadership throughout this difficult year. No matter your party affiliation or beliefs, there is no rule book for a situation like this pandemic, and he did his best to guide the people of New Jersey to a safe end. So, on behalf of the MCANJ, I thank him for his guidance and direction during these many months.



Continued on Page 3

Message from Newly Sworn in MCANJ President Kim Marie White

I hope this newsletter finds you all well and everyone is enjoying their summer! I can't believe these years flew by so fast from first being sworn in as the Secretary on the Executive Board in 2017. People often say when you have children to enjoy every moment because time flies and it goes by so quickly, well I can definitely attest to that statement. I feel like I was just sworn in as secretary. Hopefully by the time this article reaches you the Governor has further lifted COVID regulations and maybe no more masks in NJ. Who would have ever thought that "we" would've ever been faced with a pandemic? You learned about it in school and watched it in movies but to actually be living it. We were faced with so many uncertainties from do you go to work because we are essential employees (in a way); is the building staying open or closed; how do you run a zoom meeting; your children, grandchildren learning on-line and us having so many webinars to get our CEU's and so many other factors. We all did it and got through it all together as us Clerk's normally do.



Continued on Page 5

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1993: John J. Galvin	2006: Elaine B. Kennedy	2019: Kevin Galland
1994: Kathleen A. Thorpe	2007: Barbara M. Hawk	2020: Diane M. Pflugfelder
1995: Christina N. Wilder	2008: Heather Mailander	
1996: Joseph C. Favaro	2010: Vincent Buttiglieri	
1997: Elizabeth H. Kiss	2011: Joanne M. Kwasniewski	
	2012: Andrew J. Pavlica	

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Hunterdon:	Ceil Covino, Clinton Township	Warren:	Kristin Shipps, Knowlton Township
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Cumberland:	Lisa Garrison, Greenwich & Woodbine	Salem:	Melinda Taylor, Oldsman
Essex:	Eleni Pettas, Nutley, NJ	Somerset:	Pamela Borek, Hillsborough Township
Gloucester:	Dina Zawadski, Deptford Township	Sussex:	Amy Lobban, Sandyston Township
Hudson:		Union:	Nicole Dirado, Union County
Hunterdon:	Ceil Covino, Town of Clinton	Warren:	Diane M. Pflugfelder, Liberty Twp.
Mercer:	Kim Macellaro, Ewing Township		

Message from Out-Going President Eileen Gore-continued

Never before have we as Municipal Clerks had to adapt and change to the process and execution of our duties. The 2020 Presidential Election tested us like never before. Being from a large town with 64 election districts and 42 polling locations, I can assure you that our heads were spinning. Thankfully, like every other town we were able to get through both elections successfully. Now I know that many of you would rather just forget those elections, but truth be told, it was an experience that we will be able to reference and expand upon for the future, leaving us better prepared should an emergency of such magnitude appear at our door steps again. To my fellow New Jersey Municipal Clerks, I would like to express deepest appreciation for your perseverance this year. I congratulate you all on a job well done! Our communities and government worked cohesively to ensure that our residents were able to participate in such a monumental election and affirming the idea that our residents and businesses could turn to their government in their absolute time of need and we were able to respond on all levels of governing – federal and local. So again, thank you all for your tremendous work in serving your communities.

Last year, our 2020 conference came to a halt with the rise of COVID 19 and we were forced to make a difficult decision. Again, this year, we were faced with a similar situation; to prepare for a limited in-person conference or to step into the virtual world. After much consideration, it was determined that we would go with a virtual conference for the safety of our membership. So, in March we held our first Annual Education Virtual Conference. There were 344 attendees and it was a great success! Thanks to the Conference Committee, we were able to offer CEU's in all the required education elements of your RMC Certification as well as credits for the International CMC and MMC certification applicants.

I would certainly be remiss if I did not take the time to thank the New Jersey League of Municipalities for partnering with MCANJ and allowing us to utilize their GoToWebinar virtual platform. The League not only donated the platform, but also graciously extended to us the expertise of their very own Danielle Holland who flawlessly facilitated the event. I thank all who attended the virtual conference! The Executive Board and Conference Committee received so many very favorable reviews from the attendees! Also, I would like to thank all the speakers and panelists who adapted their presentation to the virtual world. The sessions were very informative and we thank them for participating and sharing their knowledge with our attendees. On behalf of the entire committee, we thank you!

A special thank you to the 2020 sponsors and exhibitors for their continued support of our conference. It should be noted that when we had to cancel the 2020 conference, many of them extended their financial contributions to 2021 which is very much appreciated. We look forward to seeing those sponsors and exhibitors in person at our 2022 Annual Conference.

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude and congratulations to those individuals who worked so tirelessly over the past many months to bring the Virtual Conference and the Annual Business Meeting to a successful conclusion. Please thank our co-chairs Debra Sopronyi (Hightstown) and Michele Seigfried (Robbinsville); Vincent Buttiglieri (Ocean); Daina Dale (Harvey Cedars); Laurie Gompf (Hopewell); Susan Jackson (North Hanover); Kim Macellaro (Ewing) ; Kathy Norcia (Lawrence); Allan Susen (Haledon); Doreen Cali (Retired Roselle Park); Kim Marie White (Eastampton); Denise Cafone (Fairfield); Michele Bobrowski (Alexandria); Lucy Samuelsen (Somers Point); Diane Pflugfelder (Liberty); and of course our Executive Director Joel Popkin. Also a special thank you to the retiree volunteers who also assisted; Bette Mastropasqua and Sharon Young.

Continued on Page 8

Contact Information for the 2021/2022 MCANJ Executive Board



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Burlington County
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1st Vice President Denise Cafone
Fairfield Township
Essex County
EMAIL: 1vp@MCANJ.us



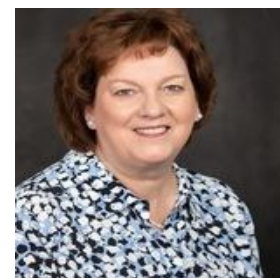
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EMAIL: Pastpresident@MCANJ.us



Executive Director Joel Popkin
Email: executivedirector@MCANJ.us
Retired Clerk-Neptune City
Monmouth County



Thank you for your support of the MCANJ this past year. Membership along with your involvement is essential to our organization, which is very much appreciated!

We know that you're busy, but just wanted to take the time to remind you that your current MCANJ membership will expire June 30, 2021.

MCANJ members enjoy the many benefits of exclusive membership; access to the website, legislative updates, networking, and reduced registration rates for statewide educational opportunities.

Please take the time to renew your membership and continue to be a part of MCANJ.

Thanks Again!



Message from Newly Sworn in MCANJ President Kim Marie White-continued

We are trained to look diversity in the eye and tackle all of our duties and not look back. Well I know I do, I just want that task completed and off my desk and then on to the next. I hope some of you were able to attend the Annual business meeting at the Boat House in Mercer County. We had to do the annual meeting a little un-orthodox compared to previous years due to the virtual conference. We all had a good time coming together and celebrating the Municipal Clerks of the Year (that's right we celebrated both of them Daina Dale – Harvey Cedars Borough and Michele Seigfried – Robbinsville Township). We had a flag ceremony where each representative from each County walked in holding their respective flags. It was very nice to see everyone coming together for the swearing in of our new officers. I would like to congratulate Deanna Bennett (Borough Clerk Haddonfield Township) as our incoming secretary. I have worked with Deanna for a long time now and she is a wonderful asset for our organization.

I am humbled to be your next President of the MCANJ and it's truly an honor representing such a great group of people. I was supposed to be an aspiring chef as I have a passion to cook (thank you Mom and my Grandmothers). I started in local government at 17 (working part-time) and then began full time and figured I would cook in my spare time which is exactly what I have done for the past 27 years (whoa I feel old). During my career I have crossed paths with so many individuals who have made a positive impact on my career but it wasn't until I joined Eastampton Township in June of 2008, which allowed me to open up more and be the socially active butterfly that I am. I was greeted with welcome wishes and words of encouragement from the Burlington County Clerk's Association of NJ where Patty Hunt from Moorestown was the former President. I attended my fist meeting and I knew from that day that Burlington County had some amazing wonderful clerks and I truly am inspired every day working with such wonderful colleagues.

On May 20th, I was invited to attend Andrew (Drew) Pavlica's retirement party after 34 years of dedicated service to Garfield City. Did I mention that Drew never missed a Council Meeting! WOW, I remember being at the MCANJ Annual Conferences, and the League of Municipalities and hanging out with Drew and pals and then later on that evening he would be gone. I would ask where Drew is and the response always was he had a Council Meeting so he drove back to Garfield. I would always wonder why didn't he change the meeting date or have someone be there in his absence.

Drew would plan his vacations around Council meetings, now people that is extraordinary and it shows you the love he has as a Municipal Clerk and that's dedication right there. Drew's retirement party was a great success and it was so nice seeing everyone and not being in lockdown, it seems like things are started to go back to normal. For those Municipal Clerks who have retired enjoy the new chapter in your life and if you feel like volunteering please let me know.

A little about my years on the Executive Board. They are one active group of individuals and the amount of time spent on events, membership drives, keeping up with legislation and educational sessions is insane at times but well worth every second spent helping and planning. You really don't know how everything comes together for our members, so I encourage you to get involved and continue to make the MCANJ stronger with dedicated people.

Our Executive Director Joel Popkin is such a wonderful man and he one was of my first teachers for Clerk's classes. People often tell me that they are not sure how I keep everything going and I wonder the same about Joel. He is such a pleasure to work with and bounce ideas off of. He definitely keeps us in line and that is why the MCANJ is a well-oiled machine, thank you Joel. Often times he is working with the current President and getting the incoming President ready for their role and working on two conferences at one time.

Former President Eileen Gore has been such a great leader and friend. Thank you for your contributions to the Association over the years and for all of your hard work this past year as our President. We have had some gut busting laughter especially when we decided to drive to the IIMC Conference in Norfolk VA and us Jersey gals pumping our own gas. We have traveled together quite a bit over the years attending meetings and conferences and I have loved every second of it.

To those who answered my calls, texts and emails regarding volunteering on our subcommittees, the conference committee members and the advisory board representatives thank you so much from the bottom of our hearts for stepping up when I needed you helping the MCANJ and your support.

In the Quill for October I can update you all with my MCANJ 2022 Conference theme, dates and location so stay tuned for that edition.

2020 Clerk of the Year

Since the MCANJ was not able to conduct the annual conference last spring due to Covid-19, the MCANJ Executive Board announced the 2020 and the 2021 Clerks of the Year at the Annual Meeting held at the Mercer County Boathouse on June 16th. The Clerks of the Year are:

2020 Clerk of the Year is Daina Dale from Harvey Cedars!! Congratulations Daina!

- Daina was appointed as Municipal Clerk in 2001 and holds many positions in her municipality including QPA, Planning Board Member, Emergency Management Committee, Activity Committee, Dog Registrar, and Certified Municipal Registrar.
- Chair of the MCANJ Web Page
Member of MCANJ's Education Committee
- Diana has been on the Executive Board of the Ocean County Clerk's Association for several years, serving as Vice President and now President of the Association.
- Daina has given herself (literally) to try and save a family member's life (unfortunately, it didn't). She did this selflessly without regard to her own health.
- She worked and still does tirelessly during and after Sandy struck meeting with dignitaries, FEMA, etc.
- Daina earned her Master Municipal Clerk Certification in 2013



RENT-A-CLERK PROGRAM

If you have recently retired, or know of someone who has, and you/they want to get back into the profession please contact Elaine Kennedy (ebeverly@comcast.net). We have a listing of available individuals to assist with fulfilling short and long term municipal clerk positions.

2021 Clerk of the Year

2020/2021 Clerk of the Year is Michele Seigfried from Robbinsville!!!

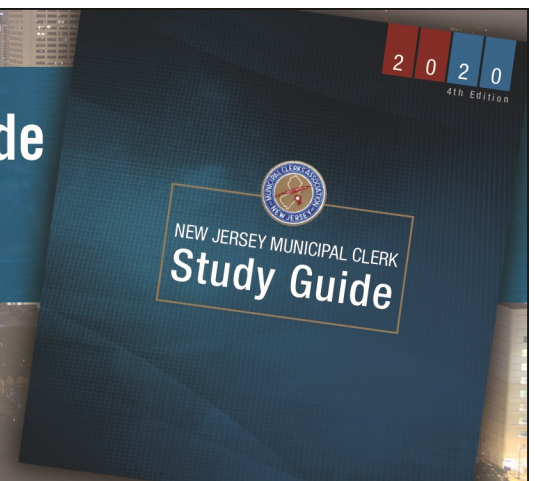
Congratulations Michele!

- Michele has been a Municipal Clerk for over 20 years in two different municipalities.
- She is the author of humorous, cozy mystery novels and a children's picture book author/illustrator. Michele has written 4 mystery novels that draw from her personal expertise in municipal government.
- Michele has a BA in communications from the College of New Jersey with a minor in art.
- Michele earned her Master Municipal Clerk certification in 2010.
- Michele served as the co-chair for the 2021 Conference Committee.
- Received the Spotlight Award in 2015
- Michele has her own page in the Quill where she writes "A Day in the Life of a Municipal Clerk" quarterly for many years.
- Michele serves on the MCANJ's Legislative Committee and has been a speaker for various conferences on behalf of the MCANJ.
- Has served as President for the Municipal Clerk's Association of Mercer County



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A Message from Out-Going MCANJ President Eileen Gore –*continued*

I am pleased to say that our membership is strong with a total of 773 members. This past year, as a result of our membership drive, we have 446 Municipal and County Clerks; 191 Deputy Municipal and Associate Clerks; 2 Clerks of the Freeholder Boards; 18 Assistant Municipal Clerks; 20 Acting Municipal Clerks; 44 Affiliates; and 44 Retirees. The 2021-2022 membership renewal is just around the corner so please watch your email for your renewal application request.

We have been made aware that Senator Weinberg is retiring at the end of her term which is January 2022. While we certainly did not agree on the matters of OPRA and OPMA, we do offer our congratulations and best wishes on her retirement. Our Association looks forward to working with our legislators to ensure that our voices are heard and allow our Association to provide first hand knowledge and expertise while crafting legislation that affect our Municipal Clerks.

I want to welcome and extend my congratulations to Deanna Bennett, Municipal Clerk for the Borough of Haddonfield, who was sworn-in as the newest member of the Executive Board. I know that she will serve the MCANJ with distinction and all of us on the Executive Board look forward to working with her. The membership is in good hands with your incoming Executive Board. To incoming President Kim Marie White, I am beyond confident that you will be an outstanding President. She has been so very supportive to me since we started serving together in 2018 and I can't thank her enough. Her commitment to our organization is incredible and her energy is unmatched. I know that all of us are certainly looking forward to her 2022 Annual Conference.

Back in 1980, I was very fortunate that one of the premier municipal clerks in the State of New Jersey decided to take a chance and hire me... my former supervisor and Municipal Clerk, Christina Wilder. I wish to thank her for believing in my abilities and encouraging me to pursue the RMC path. I must say though, I contributed quite a bit to Chris's hair turning white prematurely. As a matter of fact, I remember one time when I was supposed to be doing verbatim minutes, but instead, I had popped in my Bruce Springsteen cassette and started tapping away at the keyboard thinking nobody would be the wiser. Well, low and behold, about ten minutes into it, Chris comes flying around the corner. She popped the cassette out of the machine and I almost fell off my chair because I knew I was caught red handed. Apparently, what I thought was humming in my head wasn't and she could hear me quite clearly on the other side of the office. But really, how could one keep those songs back then to just a hum!? I clearly tested her patience on many occasions and I thank her for putting up with me all my young and crazy years.

My biggest thanks go to my family, especially my husband, Jeffrey, for your constant and never-ending love and support all these many years. You truly are a one-of-a-kind gentleman and I am so very lucky to have you by my side. To my oldest daughter, Kelsey, and her fiancé, MJ, along with myg youngest daughter, Sarah, I thank you for your love and support and all that you do to make my life a little easier these past years while serving the MCANJ.

Finally, to the membership, the last five years have been so rewarding. I have met some wonderful people along the way that are not just colleagues, but friends. I have so many wonderful and funny memories that I will long remember. I thank you for allowing me to lead our great organization this past year, and look forward to serving in 2022 in my capacity as Immediate Past President.

I wish you all the best for a wonderful and safe summer and look forward to seeing many of you in 2022.

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Parade of County Flags

A first for MCANJ! A representative from each County represented their County by entering the meeting room with their County Flag at the Annual Meeting held on June 16th at the Mercer County Boathouse. Here are a few snapshots of the event.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW RMC'S FOR 2020



Brandy Blevin
 Suzanne Boland
 Michaela Bosler
 Michelle Botsford
 Sarah Brake
 Lisa Brown
 Diane Curcio
 Sunshine Dashiell
 Melissa DePiro
 Scott Devlin
 Melissa Fackler
 Diane Festino
 Anna Grimste
 Dorothy Haight
 Jennifer Harbison
 John Hitchner
 Emerald Honig
 Melissa Larkin
 Angela Lazzari
 Elizabeth MacLennan
 Jill Magill
 Elizabeth McGill
 Lori Nienstedt
 Carrmela Pogorzelski
 Graciela Ramirez
 Douglas Ruccione
 Karen Sena
 Allison Sheehan
 Amy Troxel



CMC Certifications

Tammy Brown, Township of Neptune (Monmouth)
 April Claudio, Borough of Belmar (Monmouth)
 Lisa DaSilva, Union County Utilities Authority (Union)
 Courtney Fitzpatrick, Borough of Lincoln Park (Morris)
 Magdalena Giandomenico, Borough of Park Ridge (Bergen)
 Teri Giercyk, Township of Manchester (Ocean)
 Laurie Gompf, Township of Hopewell (Mercer)
 Kathleen Hart, Township of Millstone (Monmouth)
 Kevin Harris, Borough of East Newark (Hudson)
 Kim Macellaro, Township of Ewing (Mercer)
 Jodi McKinney, Township of Delaware (Hunterdon)
 Eleni Pettas, Township of Nutley (Essex)

MMC Certifications

Christine Demiris, Borough of New Milford (Bergen)
 Courtney Fitzpatrick, Borough of Lincoln Park (Morris)
 Kevin Harris, Borough of East Newark (Hudson)
 Debra Sopronyi, Borough of Hightstown (Mercer)



Those present at the Annual Meeting above are (Left to Right) April Claudio, Tammy Brown, Laurie Gompf, Kim Macellaro, and Debra Sopronyi. Congratulations ladies and Congratulations to all of our fellow MCANJ Clerks who took the next step and earned their CMC and MMC Certifications!



Like us on Facebook –Municipal Clerk's Association of NJ and visit our website at www.njclerks.org

MCANJ Annual Meeting Highlights at the Mercer County Boathouse on June 16th



The People Page is an opportunity for the members of our Association to celebrate each other's achievements both professionally and personally, as well as to share our condolences during times of sorrow. Additionally, when we as clerks have an opportunity to participate in community events that are afforded to us as a result of our position, it is another example of something to share on the People's Page. Please feel free to share. Send your submissions to the email of: peoplepage@MCANJ.us along with a picture and caption to be included in future editions of the Quill.

A Day in the Life of a Municipal Clerk
Facebook FUNNIES, Part III
By Michele Lynn Seigfried

Let's face it. Since COVID hit, I haven't had much of a life outside of work and my daughter's sporting events. So, I'm at it again, cracking up at all the funny people on Facebook. I hope you can take a few minutes to relieve your stress and laugh along with me at these Facebook posts:

From a local nursery: Summer is here. I'm so excited, I wet my plants.

My dog's bladder is mostly what inspires me to get out of bed daily.

Someone told me I should sing to my kids. So I sang, "Y'all gone make me lose my mind, up in here, up in here."

Funny thing about getting older, your eyesight might weaken and yet you can see through people much better.

My farmer friend used his stimulus to buy baby chicks. He got his money for nothing and his chicks for free.

They say we can have gatherings with up to 8 people without issues. I don't even know 8 people without issues.

What kind of Doctor is Dr. Pepper? A Fizzician.

Blackened chicken recipe: Place cleaned chicken in oven then go check your Facebook.

The worst thing about returning to the bars is getting a standard 5 oz glass of wine instead of the 25 oz pour my home bar offers.

Please do not ask me if I'm at home without further explanation so that I can know whether I'm at home or not.

Instead of the movie, "The Purge," where you get to kill people for 24 hours, I'd much rather get to talk to customers for 24 hours the way they talk to us.

Three days ago, my wife said she couldn't even tell me how upset she was with me. She's still telling me.

Me at 18: This radio station is playing my jams!

Me at 25: This bar is playing my jams!

Me now: This grocery store is playing my jams!

You know you're getting old when your name is on an AARP Card and most doctors titles you have to see end in "ologist."

Someone threw a bottle of mayo at me. I was like Hellmann!

What's everyone wearing to the 1-year anniversary of the 14-day flatten the curve?

Does anyone know which page of the bible explains how to turn water into wine?

To those who still wear their mask below their nose, it's almost a year now, it takes less time to potty train a toddler.

Until the next edition of the quill, remember to laugh, it keeps you young!

MCANJ Retirement Gift

If you or someone from your County is planning on or has retired and they are a member of MCANJ, please let your MCANJ County Representative know so that the Association can provide a retirement gift on behalf of the MCANJ. County Representatives should contact Lucy Samuelsen Treasurer@mcanj.us Please be sure to include the individual's name as it should appear on the engraved gift along with an address where it can be mailed. The request will take approximately 3 to 4 weeks to process, so please ensure that you provide as much advance notice as possible so that it can be presented at a retirement party or last town meeting, etc.

MCANJ News & Updates

Administration of Oath of Office to 2021-2022 Officers by John Mitch, Township of Woodbridge Township

President Kim-Marie White, Township of Eastampton
1st Vice President Denise Cafone, Township of Fairfield
2nd Vice President Michele Bobrowski, Township of Alexandria
Treasurer Lucy Samuelson, City of Somers Point
Secretary Deanna Bennett, Borough of Haddonfield
Immediate Past President Eileen Gore, Township of Hamilton



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Thank you for your support of the MCANJ this past year. Membership along with your involvement is essential to our organization, which is very much appreciated!

We know that you're busy, but just wanted to take the time to remind you that your current MCANJ membership will expire June 30, 2021.

MCANJ members enjoy the many benefits of exclusive membership; access to the website, legislative updates, networking, and reduced registration rates for statewide educational opportunities.

Please take the time to renew your membership and continue to be a part of MCANJ.

Thanks Again!

MCANJ MEMBER SPOTLIGHT AWARD

Do you know a Municipal Clerk, Acting Municipal Clerk, Deputy Municipal Clerk, Assistant Municipal Clerk, County Clerk, Deputy County Clerk, Freeholder Clerk or a Deputy Freeholder Clerk who is a current member of MCANJ (Municipal Clerks' Association of New Jersey) and they bring positive attention to the role of "Clerk"? They are eligible for nomination!!!! We want to recognize a MCANJ member who promotes their position as "Clerk" through civic activities and events in their work or home community that is outside the scope of their normal duties and responsibilities. Nominees who are selected for recognition will be announced through electronic communications and posted on the Municipal Clerks' Association of New Jersey website. So if you know a fellow Clerk who has been doing amazing things— go to the MCANJ website at www.njclerks.org, fill out the Spotlight Nomination Form and send it to Kim Marie White at president@mcanj.us so we can all celebrate this achievement!!

the *Quill*
Editor - Michele Bobrowski
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DEADLINES FOR NEWSLETTER ITEMS

The deadline for People Page submissions for the October 2021 issue is September 7, 2021. Please send People Page news to:

Drew Pavlica, Retired Municipal Clerk, City of Garfield,

via Email at peoplepage@MCANJ.us

The General News Articles deadline is September 14, 2021, and may be sent to:

Michele Bobrowski, Alexandria Township, 242 Little York-Mt. Pleasant Rd. Milford, NJ 08848 or via email to:

clerk@alexandrianj.gov

Questions or comments regarding this or any issue of *The Quill* may be directed to the

Editor, Michele Bobrowski,

by calling (908) 996-7071 ext. 210 or using the contact information shown above.

Articles for submission should be prepared in Microsoft Word, using Calibri 10-point font.