

# OAMCC Informer

Ohio Association of Municipal Court Clerks

April 2004



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## **Note From the President**

Hopefully, everyone is surviving the dramatic changes SB123 and HB490 have caused our respective courts. Be sure to attend the upcoming OAM/CCC Annual Meeting at the Embassy Suites in Dublin as these topics will be discussed at great length. It's always good to gather input from other clerks (and even greater to release all the output!). Jim Laria has again put together a great education agenda, with much emphasis being placed on these two bills. I encourage you to either attend or send someone from your office if you're not available, or both.

As my duties as President are coming to a close, I'd like to thank all of you for making my job easier. We have a terrific organization, and I've gained so much knowledge and made tremendous contacts by being involved. Volunteering for a committee or running for a position on the Executive Committee is a very rewarding experience and one that I would recommend to all of you. We all have assets to contribute, and people willing to share those assets are what makes this a great organization.

I look forward to seeing all of you in May!

Karen Goffena  
Sidney Municipal Court

# Spring Conference - Program Agenda

OAM/CC MEETING  
MAY 19, 20, 21 2004  
EMBASSY SUITES, DUBLIN, OHIO

## **WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2004**

- 1:30 pm - 2:45 pm Ohio Public Employee Retirement System  
Presenter: Joe Mayhugh
- 2:45 pm - 3:00 pm Break
- 3:00 pm - 4:15 pm OPERS (Optional)

## **THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2004**

- 9:00 am - 10:00 am Clerk s Business Meeting
- 9:00 am - 10:00 am Civil Deputy Clerk s Meeting  
Presenter: Dan Feldhaus, Hamilton County Muni Court
- 9:00 am - 10:00 am Criminal/Traffic Deputy Clerk s Meeting  
Presenter: Jerry Poland, Hamilton County Muni Court
- 10:00 am - 10:15 am Break
- 10:15 am - 11:30 am Department of Insurance/Bail Bonds  
Presenter: Dan Houston
- 11:30 am - 12:30 pm Lunch (On your own)
- 12:30 pm Board bus to Supreme Court
- 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Tour of new Supreme Court of Ohio
- 3:00 pm - 4:15 pm SUPREME COURT MEETING ROOM  
Review of SB123/HB 490  
Presenter: David Diroll
- 4:15 pm Board bus to hotel
- 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm President Hospitality
- 7:00 pm - 12:00 am Banquet/Dance with DJ  
Speaker: To be determined

# Spring Conference - Program Agenda

OAM/CC MEETING  
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CONTINUED

FRIDAY, MAY 21, 2004

9:00 am - 11:00 am Thelma & Louise Potpourri Session

Presenters: Bonnie Chromik, Sylvania Muni Court  
Maria Hallabrin, Cleveland Heights Muni Court

# Professional Certification

By Eric Czetli, Cuyahoga Falls Municipal - Certification Committee  
April 2004

## Municipal Court Clerk Certification

The Professional Certification and Continuing Certification Programs were established to promote the education of municipal/county court clerks in their professional growth and development. It encourages high-level achievement through advanced education and active participation in the municipal court clerk profession. There are presently sixty-three municipal/county clerks in both programs.

The seven-member Certification Board, which oversees both programs, is responsible to review and approve completed applications for initial certification and continued certification based upon an established point schedule.

The committee has approved Professional Certification to Clerk of Courts: **Donna L. Cottage**, Belmont County Court (Northern); **Raymond J. Wohl**, Berea Municipal Court; **Victoria L. Dailey**, Chardon Municipal Court; **Donald J. Rothgery**, Elyria Municipal Court; **Carol A. Perusek**, Euclid Municipal Court; **Janice Russell**, Fostoria Municipal Court; **Nancy McClatchy**, Mentor Municipal Court; **Stacey A. DeShelter**, Oregon Municipal Court; and **Sandra C. Bowers**, Paulding County Court.

They are the Association's fourth class that has earned Professional Certification. The awards will be presented by Bill Mason, Cuyahoga County Prosecutor, at the banquet held at the OAM/CCC Conference on May 20, 2004, in Columbus.

Also being recognized at the banquet will be fifteen clerks from the Association's 2002 Professional Certification class to receive their Continuing Certification

For information regarding the Professional Certification or Continuing Certification Program, please contact:

Eric Czetli, Clerk of Courts  
Cuyahoga Falls Municipal Court  
2310 Second Street  
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221  
Phone (330) 971-8110/FAX (330) 971-8114.

## News From the Districts

### **NORTHEAST OHIO MUNICIPAL COURT CLERK S ASSOCIATION**

Bill Gareau, Clerk of Rocky River, is president. They hosted a meeting in March at their court. Jim Laria, Akron Clerk, did a presentation on SB 123. There were approximately 80 - 100 attendees.

### **NORTHWEST OHIO MUNICIPAL COURT CLERK S ASSOCIATION**

The Northwest Ohio Municipal Court Clerks Association met recently with Betty Marihugh, Clerk of Napoleon Municipal Court, acting as host. A Lieutenant from the Napoleon Police Department presented a mock field sobriety test with an intoxicated individual. The group found the presentation extremely interesting.

### **SOUTHEAST OHIO MUNICIPAL COURT CLERK S ASSOCIATION**

Connie Secrest, Clerk of Noble County Court in Caldwell, Ohio, is president. They hosted a meeting on April 15<sup>th</sup>. A tour of the Noble County Court Correctional Facility was on the agenda. Thirty-five attended.

### **SOUTHWEST OHIO MUNICIPAL COURT CLERK S ASSOCIATION**

Mark Owens, Clerk of Dayton Municipal Court, is president. The group met in March in Valdalia.

## FROM THE EDITOR

Michael A. Pirik, Franklin County Municipal Court

I hope this newsletter finds you in good health and looking forward to a great year full of challenges, and hopefully, many rewards. I am thrilled and very honored to be helping the Clerks Association by assuming the responsibility of editor for our newsletter, *The Informer*.

I want to thank my predecessor, Susan Reilly of Barberton Municipal Court, for the great job she did managing our newsletter. I hope to continue the excellent tradition established by her and others before her, and to try to further enhance our network of shared information.

I welcome your ideas and suggestions for our newsletter and encourage everyone to participate in on-going communications. Please feel free to call or email me anytime. Thank you in advance for all of your help!!

# 2003 Officers and Committee Chairpersons

President Karen Goffena, Sidney Municipal Court  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Bonnie Chromik, Sylvania Municipal Court  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Sergeant-At-Arms Maria Hallabrin, Cleveland Heights Municipal Court  
Secretary Janis Crowell, Ashtabula Municipal Court  
Treasurer Jeanne Strong, Chillicothe Municipal Court  
Trustee (Past President) Marty Vittardi, Parma Municipal Court  
Trustee Stephen Bansek, Lorain Municipal Court  
Trustee Eric Czetli, Cuyahoga Falls Municipal Court  
Trustee James Laria, Akron Municipal Court  
Trustee Johnnie Maier, Massillon Municipal Court  
Trustee Janie Patterson, Cambridge Municipal Court  
Trustee Susan Reilly, Barberton Municipal Court  
Audit Committee Stephen Bansek, Lorain Municipal Court  
BMV Committee Susan Reilly, Barberton Municipal Court  
Budget & Finance Richard Gray, Lakewood Municipal Court  
By-Laws Committee Bonnie Chromik, Sylvania Municipal Court  
Certification Committee Eric Czetli, Cuyahoga Falls Municipal Court  
Conference Karen Goffena, Sidney Municipal Court  
Deputy Clerk (civil) Dan Feldhaus, Hamilton County Municipal Court  
Deputy Clerk (crim/traf) Jerry Poland, Hamilton County Municipal Court  
Directory Lois Harbourt, Defiance Municipal Court  
Elected Clerks Ray Wohl, Berea Municipal Court  
Education Jim Laria, Akron Municipal Court  
Former & Retiring Clerks Rita Thayer, Norwalk Municipal Court  
Historian Jean Wurzbacher, Peninsula Mayors Court  
Informer Susan Reilly, Barberton Municipal Court  
Legislation  
Mayors Courts Karen Woodard, Gahanna Mayors Court  
NACM Sarah Brown-Clark, Youngstown Municipal Court  
Nominations/Elections Guy Ferguson, Clark County Municipal Court  
Operations Task Force Bob Holmes, Lima Municipal Court  
Outstanding Clerk/Deputy Sherry Eckman, Fairfield County Municipal Court  
Public Records Mark Owens, Dayton Municipal Court  
Registration Mark Owens, Dayton Municipal Court  
State Auditor Guy Ferguson, Clark County Municipal  
Web Page Rosanne Buell, Marietta Municipal Court