

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

*RaNae Edwards, MMC, City Clerk, City of Grand Island  
NMCA President*

**SUMMER IS FINALLY HERE** if the weather is any indication. Hope everyone is enjoying these warm days. There are just so many things to do – pulling weeds, watering flowers, gardening (for those who have a garden), mowing lawn, mowing lawn, and more mowing lawn (sure beats shoveling snow). I do like the summer months though, as I like being outdoors.

**NMCA EXECUTIVE BOARD** met June 21, 2018 in Lincoln and had a very productive meeting. The following items were discussed and voted on:

- Approved online registration for vendors to be set up by UNO with the fees collected to go to the Wednesday Night Reception and excess proceeds to the Thursday Night Banquet. This will be more efficient for the vendors and NMCA.
- Denied an increase of \$25 for the registration fee for Institute and Academy. This is an item we may have to look at in the future with rising costs of food, etc.
- Approved no longer having the President's Reception on Monday evening. This will be a cost savings to NMCA and give the Institute attendees a free evening to just relax.
- Approved no longer having the Silent Auction. We are going to try this for a while and see how it goes. We can always bring it back. We found that it took a lot of time for those working the Silent Auction and they missed out on part of



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the sessions. Also, the items donated often didn't bring what they were worth. We would like to see individual and association donations instead. By not having a Silent Auction the attendees would have more time to visit the vendors. We had a lot of positive comments at this year's Institute and Academy from the vendors having more time with the attendees.

**The Board** reviewed the 2018 Institute and Academy evaluations and I want to thank everyone who filled one out. They were very positive and had a lot of good ideas for upcoming sessions.

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

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**THE ANNUAL NMCA MEETING** will be held in September in Kearney. This will be an important meeting as the membership will be voting on the changes to the NMCA Constitution and By-Laws. More information will come later.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the following for receiving their CMC/MMC designation from IIMC this year:

Tarrah Krejci, CMC, Alliance  
 Lori Schmidt, CMC, McCook  
 Erin Saathoff, CMC, Beatrice  
 Karolyn McElroy, CMC, Tekamah  
 Andrew Devine, MMC, Albion

Great job!! We have 94 CMCs and 24 MMCs here in Nebraska.

**HAPPY 4<sup>th</sup> OF JULY!!** Enjoy and be safe.

*“This Nation will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave.”*  
**Elmer Davis**

*RaNae Edwards, MMC  
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## JULY BIRTHDAYS

Connie Carlton ..... Elmwood..... 7/1  
 Patty Knobbe ..... Snyder ..... 7/1  
 Wendy McKain ..... Trenton ..... 7/2  
 Amy Mason..... Wymore ..... 7/2  
 Sharon Ketteler ..... Albion..... 7/3  
 Tricia Moreno..... Imperial..... 7/3  
 Samantha Rife..... Trenton ..... 7/6  
 Irene Dresch ..... Primrose ..... 7/7  
 Linda Douglas..... Arlington..... 7/8  
 Janine Schmidt..... Morrill ..... 7/10  
 Carol Johnston..... Bertrand ..... 7/15  
 Patty Lamberty ..... Arnold..... 7/17  
 Geri Anthony..... Sidney ..... 7/17  
 Janelle Kline ..... Columbus ..... 7/18  
 Lea Ann Doak ..... McCook..... 7/18  
 Tim Macke ..... Mullen..... 7/18



Gloria Riley..... Dorchester ..... 7/21  
 Laurie Jauken ..... Elwood ..... 7/21  
 Brenda Daniels..... Verdon ..... 7/26  
 Rosemarie Russell..... Kimball ..... 7/29  
 Alyssa Silhacek ..... Dakota City ..... 7/30  
 Rebecca Sandman..... Utica ..... 7/30  
 Karla Costello..... Platte Center ..... 7/31

## Clerk of the Year Award – Profile Linda Jensen, MMC Central City, Nebraska

**Linda Jensen** has been Central City's Clerk/Treasurer and Billing Clerk for nine years, and before that served as the Deputy Clerk and Billing Clerk for 26 years. Before being hired as the Deputy Clerk, Linda worked for John Deere and was recruited to City Hall because of her expertise and experience with computers. She's been fundamental to helping her local government office evolve with technology during her tenure there and now is invited to speak to Central City Junior High students on an annual basis to share with them how computers have evolved from the days of computer punch cards and floppy disks.

**Linda likes the sense of accomplishment** that being a City Clerk provides – she knows what she does every day is important to her community. "City Hall is an information hub in our community. If anybody has a question about anything (in the community) they call us. I like working with people and answering their questions!"

**Linda is an outstanding clerk**, yet also is meticulous in her treasurer and billing clerk duties as she's adored working with numbers since high school and college. There's nothing more satisfying to her than a perfect reconciliation. "I probably spend more time than I should making sure everything balances out to the last penny," she said, "but it's very important to me to make sure it's right."

**Linda credits her career opportunities** and successes with her longtime love of numbers. However, she also loves to read and write in her free time. In fact, she's a budding novelist set to have her first book *Against the Cottonwood Tree*, a young-adult fiction novel about two girls dealing with teenage life on a farm during the early 1960s, published this fall. The

book spans two-and-a-half years. Henry and Caroline Sims, along with their two teenage daughters, struggle to keep the farm going as they deal with the relentless Nebraska weather that creates perils for each of them. In the fall of 1963, the family succumbs to the powering forces of Mother Nature.

**"I've dabbled in poetry**, but about five years ago I decided to dig in and see what I could do." She lights up with excitement as she describes the process of developing her story, often times sitting by the lake and clacking away at the laptop keyboard. She loves coming up with new ideas, mapping out the story in her mind, and going back and changing related parts of the novel as her stories evolve. Perhaps her meticulous nature with numbers is an attribute that also aids her writing by assembling various storylines while making sure all the narratives reconcile.

**Linda has given a lot of herself** to her community outside of her city duties during her tenure in Central City. She's been on the Chamber of Commerce board, a 4-H Leader, Sunday School Teacher and, as previously mentioned, still presents seminars to students at Central City schools annually – although she's let go of most outside commitments to spend more time with her family and work on her novel. It's no secret to most clerks that she also enjoys quilting!

**Linda and Les Jensen** have been married for 40 years and have two children and one grandchild. They have a daughter, Lacey; and a son, Landon. Landon and Kimmera have a daughter named Lillian.

**Linda says** that receiving the 2018 Clerk of the

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## Clerk of the Year Award – Profile

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Year award was a shining moment for her.

**When asked about** the best advice she could offer to new clerks, Linda said, “Network, Network, Network! Ask lots of questions of other Clerks – they are your best assets. The (other)

clerks are like a family to me and are very important to my community’s success.”

*Profile Submitted by Andrew Devine, Albion – be on the lookout for more Clerk of the Year profiles in future newsletters.*

## Yes, I’m positive!

**Yes, I’m positive!** Everyone has been told, reminded and received emails, texts and posts about the “Power of the Positive.” And, I believe in the power of positivity – I do. After all, “Your positive action combined with positive thinking results in success!”

**Strangely enough,** I don’t always respond positively to such attitude awakenings. It can vary depending with whom I last visited before I am reminded that I need to “stay positive and happy!” I was told once that if I smile while I’m speaking on the telephone, that my message will come across as positive. Well, once a colleague of mine was positive that I was having signs of a psychotic break because my smile turned into more of a grimace and she decided to email me rather than wait to speak to me in person after I ended the call. I’m working on that.

**I also will admit** to having days where I’m absolutely, positively, not in the mood to be positive – even though I know full well, “Once you replace negative thoughts with positive ones, you’ll start having positive results!” These are usually days where I have been stopped in my driveway on my way to work by a citizen who wants to make sure I know I’m not doing my job very well, because there are unmanicured lawns within the city lim-

its. I’m actually quite jealous of this person’s yard and it is quite possible she was implying the yard she is displeased with is mine. That reminds me, I’m not positive, but I think I need to get gas for the mower.

**Despite those days,** when coworkers fear my phone presence and I roll my eyes at mega-inspirational “Happy Thought 2,057,” I am blessedly aware most days that I am lucky to be in a job where I have the opportunity to help someone else every day. Sometimes I hear “thank you” and sometimes I don’t. That’s okay because clerks don’t become clerks expecting loads of daily praise or none of us would be reading this right now. Today, it’s enough to know that someone knew they could call me when they didn’t know who else to call.

**And being positive** isn’t pretending that everything is good in our towns and villages. Being positive is seeing what we can do to make things better, which I’m still doing when I get to work late after the super pep talk in my driveway – and I’m positive about that.

*Submitted by Carissa Lufkin, City Clerk, Fairbury, Nebraska Newsletter Contributor*

# Municipal Legal Calendar

## (All statute citations to Revised Statutes of Nebraska)

### SEPTEMBER 2018

#### CITIES OF THE FIRST CLASS

- Within 10 days following meeting or before next meeting (whichever is sooner) ..... Clerk to have minutes available for public inspection. (84-1413)
- Within 15 days of Passage..... Clerk publishes ordinances passed. (16-405)
- Within 30 days of Council meeting ..... Clerk publishes official proceedings of meeting, including claims. (19-1102)
- On or before September 1 ..... City Council determines final allocation of levy authority for its subdivisions (77-3443)
- On or before September 20..... File adopted annual or biennial budget statement with County Clerk and State Auditor's Office. (13-508)  
File information on tradenames and interlocal agreements with State Auditor's Office (13-513)
- Within 20 days after end of month..... Treasurer files monthly financial report. (16-318)
- Last Day..... End of Fiscal Year (16-701)
- \* \* ..... Clerk must prepare agenda prior to next Council meeting. (84-1411)

#### CITIES OF THE SECOND CLASS

- Within 10 days following meeting or before next meeting (whichever is sooner) ..... Clerk to have minutes available for public inspection. (84-1413)
- Within 15 days of Passage..... Clerk publishes ordinances passed. (17-613)
- Within 30 days following Council meeting ..... Clerk publishes official proceedings of meeting, including claims. (19-1102)
- On or before September 1 ..... City Council determines final allocation of levy authority for its subdivisions (77-3443)
- On or before September 20..... File adopted annual or biennial budget statement with County Clerk and State Auditor's Office. (13-508)  
File information on tradenames and interlocal agreements with State Auditor's Office (13-513)
- Within 20 days after end of month..... Treasurer files monthly financial report. (17-606)
- Last Day..... End of Fiscal Year (17-701)
- \* \* ..... Clerk must prepare agenda prior to next Council meeting. (84-1411)

#### VILLAGES

- Within 10 days following meeting or before next meeting (whichever is sooner) ..... Clerk to have minutes available for public inspection. (84-1413)
- Within 15 days of Passage..... Clerk publishes ordinances passed. (17-613)
- Within 30 days following Trustees' meeting..... Clerk publishes official proceedings of meeting, including claims.(19-1102)
- On or before September 1 ..... Village Board determines final allocation of levy authority for its subdivisions (77-3443)
- On or before September 20..... File adopted annual or biennial budget statement with County Clerk and State Auditor's Office. (13-508)  
File information on tradenames and interlocal agreements with State Auditor's Office (13-513)
- Within 20 days after end of month..... Treasurer files monthly financial report. (17-606)
- Last Day..... End of Fiscal Year (17-701)
- \* \* ..... Clerk must prepare agenda prior to next Council meeting. (84-1411)

