

# MOCFOA

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2024 | Issue 1



## Meet Your Executive Board

### **Brooke Atha Bell** President Elect

MPCC, MGI  
City of Savannah  
brookebell@savannahmo.net



### **Melissa Mattson** Secretary

MPCC, MMC, MGI  
City of Albany  
mmattson@albanymo.net



### **Beth Anne West** Treasurer

MPCC, CMC  
City of Battlefield  
cityclerk@battlefieldmo.gov



### **Amy Edwards** Immediate Past President

MPCC, MMC  
City of Platte City  
aedwards@plattecity.org



## WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT, DEANNA JONES



MPCC, MMC  
City of Berkeley  
CityClerk@ci.berkeley.mo.us

Fall is Coming,

Okay everyone, the summer issues are coming to an end; the hot weather will be simmering down soon, and fall events are being finalized. I pray everyone had a wonderful and safe season.

As we continue with the transition with in-house registration, a new education director, and more responsibility on the treasurer, I have to give some reminders:

- The Bylaws Committee has worked hard at trying to take all the past year's concerns and apply them properly in the Rules and Regulations and Bylaws. The changes will be discussed during the MML Business Meeting.

*(continued on next page)*

- I hope everyone will pull down the agenda and review the amendments. If you have some concerns, please email them to me so I can discuss them during the Executive Meeting with the board.
- Please send Savanna Burton (Florissant) pictures of your donations for the MML Silent Auction. She would like to get as many pictures as possible on the 32auctions.com site. If you are not coming to the MML, get in touch with someone in your area that is, to send your donation with. If you are having issues finding someone, get in touch with me to help.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

- With reservations and dues fees going to the treasurer, her duties have increased substantially. I ask that everyone please show some compassion. The treasurer has a regular full-time job, just like the rest of us. She sets a certain amount of time, each week, to work on the Association items. Although she tries, she cannot respond to what you might call an emergency email about your fees, within the same day. Paying for your dues and reservation fees, in a timely manner, will help the treasurer get your information inputted in the system, the same way. Again, have some compassion and patience with our treasurer. Although the board and committee are available to help; the bulk of the work is on one person.
- The website allows everyone to pay for registration and dues with a credit card. If you still need to send a check, make sure the check is sent to the correct treasurer mailing address.
- Regional classes are right around the corner. The dates are earlier than usual due to the schedule of the speakers. We know its right after MML, but hope that several will take the advantage of the training.
  - In-person class
    - Sep 25th – Independence
    - Oct 02nd – Nixa
    - Oct 23rd – Maryland Heights

*(continued on next page)*

### **MOCCFOA Mission Statement**

Missouri City Clerks and Finance Officers Association (MOCCFOA) is a professional organization, providing opportunities and resources for professional development and continuing education.

The Missouri CCFOA will provide its members on-going educational opportunities designed to assist members in the performance of their daily job responsibilities and equip them to face the future with confidence. The Missouri CCFOA will sponsor certification programs and provide support to its members to impart standards of quality and integrity to the profession and to improve the methods and procedures which meet the needs of the public as efficiently and effectively as possible.



**529**

*Renewals  
22-23 FY*

**71**

*Past Presidents*

**9**

*MOCCFOA  
Divisions*

- Athenian Dialogue
  - Oct 25th
  - Nov 15th

I made a mistake when I posted the MML Business Meeting agenda. I posted the notices for both meetings, but only the agenda for the Executive Board meeting. The Business Meeting agenda has been posted. To accept the agenda, at the beginning of the meeting two-thirds (2/3) of the present members have to vote in the affirmative. Please forgive me for the mistake and I hope you will accept the agenda.

Come and meet us in St. Louis by attending the 2025 IIMC conference. We need HELP! Help with donations. Help with grab bag items. Help with volunteers. I hope to see you in St. Louis, May 2025.

Be wonderful and safe.  
Deanna L. Jones, 2024/2025 President



WEAR YOUR  
*Crown*

**DID  
YOU  
KNOW**

**MISSOURI'S ORIGINAL STATE CAPITAL WAS ST. CHARLES!**  
**ST. CHARLES WAS THE STATE CAPITAL FROM 1821-1826.**  
**IT WAS A GROWING TRADE CENTER ON THE MISSOURI RIVER WITH EASY  
ACCESS TO OTHER AREAS OF THE STATE.**



# Get to Know Our President-Elect

**BROOKE ATHA BELL**  
CITY CLERK, CITY OF SAVANNAH



**Length of time in municipal government:**  
16 years

**Family:** My husband, Jason, and I have been together almost 20 years. We have a 16 year old daughter, Jasey, and a 9 year old daughter, Atley. We also have an “adopted” daughter, Courtney. She is married to Michael and they made me a GiGi when they had my granddaughter, Sutton.

**Hobbies:** I love to read, go fishing, camping and do some gardening. I’m a HUGE St. Louis Cardinals baseball fan and really getting into KC Chiefs football. I also spend a lot of time at dance competitions, so I’m a “Dance Mom”!

**If you could have any job for a week what would it be and why:** I would love to try all kinds of jobs. I’d love to work in a flower shop and also, would love to be an event planner.

**If you could go into any store and spend \$5,000, where would you go?**  
I’m not a big shopper and when I do it’s usually for my kids or groceries. I guess Target or TJ Maxx.

**What movie(s) could you watch everyday?**  
Dodgeball, National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation, Sweet Home Alabama, and Die Hard

**If you could pick an unconventional animal for a pet, what would it be and why?** I think hippos are the cutest, but they’re super mean. I guess I’ll go with a koala.

**What is your favorite drink order?**  
Iced cold brew with almond milk and 5 pumps sugar free vanilla. After 4:30 p.m. I enjoy a cold Modelo with a lime.

**You go to an airport and buy a ticket to any place you choose, where would it be?** Bora Bora (if it has warm weather, beautiful waters and white sand I’ll go)

**If you could erase one color from existence what would it be?** Red. I HATE the color red- even through my sorority and favorite sports team are red.

**If you could pick a super power, what would it be?** Teleporting would be awesome!

**What size shoe do you wear?** 10

**If we see you singing in the car what song or artist is playing on radio?** I listen to anything, but it depends who’s in my car. If it’s my youngest, Atley, she is playing Lainey Wilson or Morgan Wallen. If it’s my eldest, Jasey, it could be anything from Drake to Luke Combs to AC/DC.

**Share an item from your bucket list that others may not have on theirs:**  
Buy a hotdog off a hotdog cart in the middle of NYC. I actually got to mark it off my list in 2013.

**If you could be any celebrity's assistant for a day, who would you choose?** Isiah Pacheco- just so I could spend the day with him!

**How do you eat your oreos?** Dip it into milk until it’s so soft it almost falls apart; so yummy! Halloween Oreos are the best- I swear the orange filling is creamier than the white.

**It's family game night. What is your first choice?** 11-point pitch. But we are a game family, so I’ll play any game, except Monopoly, because my husband is ruthless.



# Get to Know Our President-Elect

**BROOKE ATHA BELL**  
CITY CLERK, CITY OF SAVANNAH



**(continued)**

**If you could pick one tv show to bring back on air, what would it be?** hmm....So I'm really weird and I really get into any show I like and just fall in love with the characters. When someone dies or leaves it crushes me. I'd love to had more seasons of Hart of Dixie, Designated Survivor, Gilmore Girls, and Scandal...just to name a few.

**Your house is on fire. What is the most random thing you're taking with you?** I'm assuming the family and dog is out and they took my grandma's quilts and dishes out with them. I'll grab my 2005 St. Louis Cardinals team autographed ball or my flag autographed by Pacheco.

**You're going to the movies. What snack/candy are you sneaking in?** Reeces Pieces for my popcorn and Nerd Clusters just to snack on.

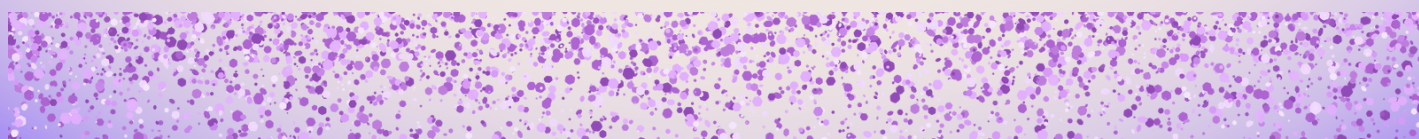
**Most famous person you've met?** I'm not sure if they're the most famous, but my favorites are Yadier Molina & Albert Pujols.

**It's your last meal; what are you choosing?** Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Roll, and my mom's chocolate sheet cake.

**If you could have a never-ending candle that smelled like anything you wanted, what fragrance would you want it to be?** Gain Laundry Detergent

**Reminder**

**Any documents, minutes, agendas, or other historical information should be emailed to [shance@cityofmoberly.com](mailto:shance@cityofmoberly.com) for inclusion into the permanent historical records!**

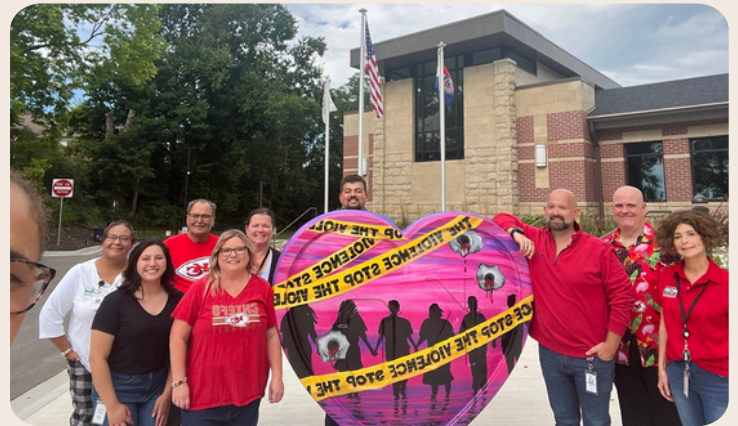
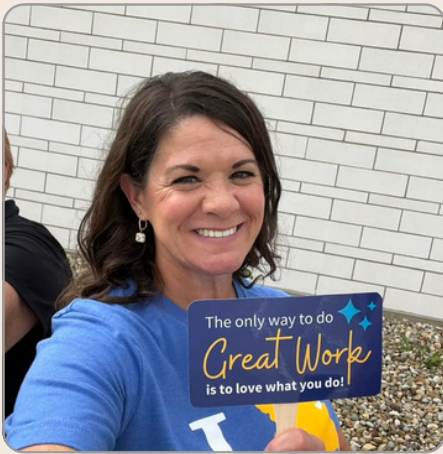


selfie!



CITY HALL  
SELFIE DAY

AUGUST 15





# Upcoming Events

Pencil in all these dates on your calendar and join us for these fun and education events! Remember, these events can be used for points towards your certification (in most cases)



Growing Our Communities Together

## 90th MML Annual Conference

Branson Convention Center

September 15-18, 2024

**JENN WHITTMER** *The Cross-Generational Jam*

**MISSOURI MASTER ACADEMY**

- ✓ Sept. 15, 2024, 9am - 4pm
- ✓ \$135
- ✓ @ Branson Convention Center

You are constantly communication—literally all the time. Our brains are hard-wired to create meaning. But what happens when even the very words don't make sense, let alone the medium? In this workshop, you will learn the power of CLEAN communication to break down intergenerational barriers and transform miscommunication into opportunities for growth.

With researched-backed communication and social skills, you can lead your organization through the friction of five generations working together to transform into a collaborative work environment. An environment that is more connected, effective, and efficient when you embrace the strengths of your youngest associate, the middlest middle manager, and the most seasoned executive.

Learn each generation's communication style, how to approach other styles, and what to do to improve your own communication. And all important, what to do when miscommunication or conflict arises. Create a culture that freely shares ideas and creates shared meaning so you can do effective and powerful work (all with a side of laughter).

For more info or to register:

<https://mccfoa.memberclicks.net/events>

## Regional Conferences

### Wednesday, September 25, 2024- Independence

19400 E. Valley View Parkway, Independence, MO 64055

### Wednesday, October 2, 2024- Nixa

715 W. Mount Vernon St, Nixa, MO 65714

### Wednesday, October 23, 2024- Maryland Heights

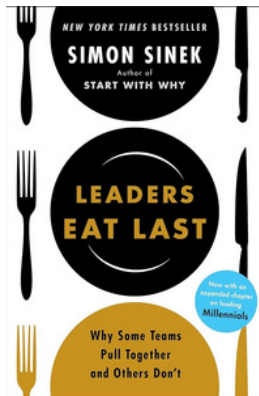
11911 Dorsett Rd, Maryland Heights, MO 63043

Join us to hear from the amazing, Reggie Harris, of Harris Multifaceted.



# Upcoming Events

Pencil in all these dates on your calendar and join us for these fun and education events! Remember, these events can be used for points towards your certification (in most cases)



## Regional Athenian Dialogue

Via Zoom:  
October 25, 2024  
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

November 15, 2024  
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Book: "Leaders Eat Last" by Simon Sinek.  
Facilitated by Dr. Jane Long.



### MOCCFOA Spring Institute

Holiday Inn  
Convention Center  
Columbia, MO

March 8-14, 2025



### 2025 IIMC Annual Conference

St. Louis, MO

May 18 - May 21, 2025



# CONGRATS



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# OUTSTANDING CITY CLERK

LEESA ROSS



## MoCCFOA

### Frontenac City Clerk Receives 2024 Outstanding City Clerk Award

**Frontenac City Clerk, Leesa Ross**, was presented with the prestigious Missouri City Clerks and Finance Officers Association's 2024 Outstanding City Clerk Award at the annual MoCCFOA Spring Institute banquet held in Columbia, Missouri on March 13, 2024. The purpose of the Outstanding City Clerk Award is to recognize a city clerk or finance officer who has demonstrated outstanding service and commitment to their municipality, community and professional organization.

JoAnn Cova, City Clerk of the City of Maryland Heights, submitted a nomination application for Leesa that was reviewed with seven other nominations for this year's Outstanding City Clerk Award. A five-member panel of judges, including the Kansas CCFOA President, the Illinois CCFOA President, a Missouri Municipal League representative, and two prior recipients of the award voted to bestow this honor upon Leesa.

To achieve the recognition of Outstanding City Clerk is an honor not achieved by many and is a testament to her extraordinary dedication to the City of Frontenac and to the MoCCFOA members.

Leesa is a member of the Eastern Division of MoCCFOA. She has served in all executive positions on both the State Executive Board and the Eastern Division Board. She has attended and presented at Spring Institutes, Regional Conferences, and has chaired and served on nearly all state and division committees over the last 20+ years. She is currently serving on the Executive Board for Region VII of the International Association of Municipal Clerks (IIMC), representing clerks in Missouri, Illinois and Kansas. The IIMC Board represents over 14,900 members. She is a member of the Host Committee for the IIMC 2025 Conference which will be held in St. Louis, Missouri. Leesa has also served on the IIMC Mentoring and Membership Committee and is currently serving as a liaison on the committee, assigned by the Current IIMC President. She has been with the City of Frontenac for almost 24 years.

Leesa has earned the highest designations in both MOCCFOA and IIMC. Leesa obtained her Master Municipal Clerk designation from IIMC in 2011 and her Missouri Professional City Clerk designation from MOCCFOA in 2014. She holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Public Policy Administration from the University of Missouri St. Louis.

Additional contributions Leesa has made to her city and community include overseeing the annual Frontenac Festival, which the city hosts for the community. Leesa also started a weekly e-newsletter, which is sent out weekly to the residents of Frontenac, consisting of events, acknowledgements, and upcoming meetings which are held in and around Frontenac. Leesa is responsible for coordinating the annual holiday party for all staff, elected officials, and families where employees are recognized for their time of service with the city. Also, Leesa served on the Use Tax Committee for the City of Maryland Heights, where she resides.

The MoCCFOA is a professional organization of municipal clerks and finance officers who have united together to assist members in the performance of their job responsibilities and promote the professional development of its members for the betterment of the public and municipalities they serve. This organization sponsors certification programs and provides support to its members for the purpose of imparting standards of quality and integrity to the profession.

Press Release Submitted by:

Minde Dreher, Deputy City Clerk, City of Savannah

Gayle Conrad, Director of Citizen Services/City Clerk, City of Cape Girardeau

*Births?*

# **BREAKING NEWS**

*Good Recipe?*

**Have something for the next newsletter?**

**Send it now while you're thinking of it to:**

**[brookebell@savannahmo.net](mailto:brookebell@savannahmo.net)**

*Graduate?*



*Marriage?*

**“Don’t let the fear of striking out keep you from playing the game.”**

**-Babe Ruth**

# Public Relations

## COMMITTEE

### MPCC

Congratulations to the following clerks who have received the following certifications:

#### MRCC

Abbie Ogborn, Wright City  
Tiffany French, Oregon

#### MPCC

Crystal Doss, N. Kansas City  
Jaki Welker, Union

#### MMC

Lori Lemons, East Prairie

### 2024-2025 COMMITTEE:

Megan Eldridge,  
City of Wildwood, Chair

Bridget Waters,  
City of Kirkwood

Suzanne Welsh,  
City of Ava

Heather Sponsler,  
City of Houston

Marilyn Dick,  
City of Centralia

Jessica Kendall,  
City of Warsaw

Sherri Klekamp,  
City of Washington

Jonita Copeland,  
City of Union

Lori Lemons,  
City of East Prairie

Rhonda Council,  
City of Sikeston

Melissa Bazert,  
City of Platte City

Patricia Fisher-Johnson,  
City of Maysville

Cindy Simpson,  
City of Trenton





# SILENT AUCTION

*SUPPORTING IIMC  
2025: ST. LOUIS*

Make sure to stop by the  
**MoCCFOA Silent Auction**  
at MML. Auction items will be in  
**Booths 134, 135, and 136** in Branson  
on Monday, September 16, 2024.  
Check out all the items available at  
<https://www.32auctions.com/mmlauction24>.

If you would like to participate in our Silent Auction, please contact silent auction co-chairs Savanna Burton at [sburton@florissantmo.com](mailto:sburton@florissantmo.com) or Melissa Mau at [melissa.mau@ashgrovemo.gov](mailto:melissa.mau@ashgrovemo.gov) or any of our members.

**We look forward to seeing you!**



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!**

# City of Joplin News

Submitted by: Roschelle Forsythe

*I am on the Health Nuts Committee for the city as a representative of the City Clerk's office. Here are some of the things we offer and are doing:*

## 08 AUGUST 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Yoga 12:15-12:50 5th Floor Study	7	8 Bingo 11:00 5th Floor Study	9 Trivia 2:00 5th Floor Study	10
11 Happiness Challenge	12	13 Bingo 12:15 5th Floor Study	14	15	16 Walking Group 12:15 Leonard Park	17
18	19	20	21 EAP Training: Healthy Habits 10:30 5th Floor Study	22 Yoga 11:00 5th Floor Study	23	24
25	26	27 Trivia 12:15 5th Floor Study	28 Outdoor Games 1:30 Athletic Complex	29	30 Walking Group 11:30 City Hall	31

### COJ OLYMPIC GAMES ACTIVITY CALENDAR

*We participated in this for the month of August; gave some competition within the departments. This was a way to get employees involved and at the same time participate in activities to keep you moving and promote healthy habits.*

# RECIPE CORNER

Submitted by: Roschelle Forsythe

A healthy recipe to go along with our  
Health Nut Theme



## NO BAKE ENERGY BARS

- ¼ cup honey
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1 tsp vanilla
- ¼ tsp salt
- 1 cup quick cooking old fashioned oats
- ½ cup unsweetened coconut (substitute dark chocolate chips if preferred)
- ¾ cup coarsely chopped dried cherries
- ½ cup creamy peanut butter

Stir together the first 4 ingredients with 3 tablespoons hot water until smooth. Stir in oats and coconut: let sit for 10 minutes. Fold in cherries and peanut butter. Scoop by tablespoons and roll into balls. Place on rimmed baking sheet and chill for at least 30 minutes.

# DIVISION DIRECTORS




## CENTRAL DIVISION

**Email:**  
cityofmadisonmo@gmail.com

**Phone:**  
(660) 291-5235



MELISSA O'BANNON



The Central Division met on July 19th hosted by the Central Division President and City Clerk, Tara Berreth with the City of Osage Beach. Visitors to the meeting were Ramona Huckstep with MML and John Strickland with ICC Community Development Solutions. Renee Kingston recommended the book *Parliamentary Procedures* to read, great for new clerks and a good refresher for everyone else. Regular agenda items were discussed. During New Business the 2025 Central Division meeting dates and host locations were set:


February 21, 2025- Madison, Melissa O'Bannon

May 16, 2025- Holts Summit, Rachel Anderson

July 18, 2025- Osage Beach, Tara Berreth

October 17, 2025- Sedalia, Jason Myers

We discussed this early so they could be placed on MML and Memberclicks website. President Tara Berreth discussed putting together a Central Division basket to be raffled at MML. Following the closure of the meeting, lunch was held at Backwater Jacks. The next Central Division meeting will be hosted by Renee Kingston with City of Camdenton on October 18.

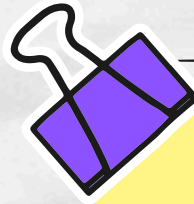




# DIVISION DIRECTORS



MEGAN ELDRIDGE



## EASTERN DIVISION

**Email:**

megan@cityofwildwood.com

**Phone:**

636-405-2029



The City of Weldon Spring hosted the June division meeting and officer installation luncheon at Persimmon Woods Golf Club. Officers sworn in were: Bill Hanks (President), Khianna Ward DeGarmo (Vice-President), Abbie Ogborn (Secretary), Savanna Burton (Treasurer), and Kellie Henke (Director).

The City of Florissant hosted the July division meeting at the John F. Kennedy Community Center, where St. Charles Assistant City Clerk Emily Galantowicz presented “City Clerk and Records Management”.

The City of Flint Hill hosted the August division meeting at the Flint Hills Knights of Columbus Hall, and Pat Kelly with the Municipal League of Metro St. Louis provided a legislative update.

The Division will be hosting one of the MoCCFOA Regionals on October 23rd in Maryland Heights.



# DIVISION DIRECTORS



## EAST CENTRAL DIVISION

**Email:**  
sklekamp@washmo.gov

**Phone:**  
636-390-1003



SHERRI KLEKAMP

Our 2024-2025 Officers are:

President: Sherri Klekamp, City of Washington  
Vice President: Melissa Stradt, City of St. James  
Secretary: Tara Dormeyer, City of Marthasville  
Treasurer: Kara Meyer, City of Owensville

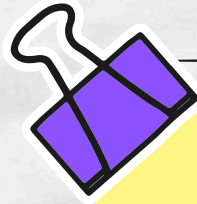
The East Central Division held their quarterly meeting in Washington on Wednesday, June 18. Topics of discussion were contributing funds towards the IIMC Conference and the May Leadership Retreat. The meeting adjourned after Deputy City Clerk, Jaklynn Welker of the City of Union, was presented with a plaque and gift from the Division by President Sherri Klekamp in recognition for her service as East Central Division President from December 8, 2021 to April 30, 2024. Our next division meeting will be in September.



# DIVISION DIRECTORS



CYNTHIA BOWMAN



## NORTHEAST DIVISION

**Email:**

cindyb@cityofclarenc.com

**Phone:**

660-699-2270



Melissa Cogdal hosted the August 14th meeting for the Northeast Division in Hannibal at Java Jive. Doug Buie from the Division of Alcohol and Tobacco was the speaker.

Our own Wendy Lewis from LaBelle attended the New Kids on the Block concert in June. She has taken her daughter every year since her daughter was 9. This year, Wendy was selected to appear on stage and dance for one song. Here are some pictures of her on stage with NKOTB.




# DIVISION DIRECTORS




## NORTHWEST DIVISION

**Due to a resignation there is no Director for the NW Division. If you need anything please contact Melissa Mattson, President at [mmattson@albanymo.net](mailto:mmattson@albanymo.net)**



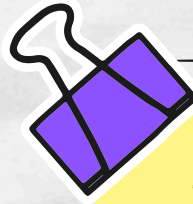
Northwest Missouri Clerks and Finance Officers Association met August 15, 2024 in Platte City for the quarterly meeting. Minutes from previous meeting and Treasurer's Report were presented and approved. The Audit Committee has reviewed last years financials and everything balanced. Minde Dreher reminded everyone to apply for Regional Scholarships by August 31, 2024. Melissa Mattson, President, spoke about bylaw that when someone RSVP's to attend the meeting and then do not show up the individual/city still owe the \$25. The caterer's price is based off the RSVP's and the division cannot continue to lose money. Aaron, previous Country Club Clerk, was chair of the Hospitality Committee; since Aaron has resigned Brooke Bell will now be the chair. Since Bell is President-Elect the division will need to provide assistance as Bell will be sworn in as President at Spring Institute. Tiffany French, Oregon City Clerk, has resigned. The division needs to elect a new VP and Director. Because of lack of interest the division chose to not elect a VP at this time. Membership will help cover the Director Position. Danielle Madron asked for ideas on education presenters for the next meeting. Becky Carlson, Secretary of State, spoke on Rentention for education part of meeting. Amy Edwards, City Clerk of Platte City, gave a wonderful tour of the new City Hall/Police Department in Platte City. If you are ever near Platte City get ahold of Amy and tour it; it's amazing!



# DIVISION DIRECTORS



SUZANNE WELSH



## SOUTH CENTRAL DIVISION

**Email:**

swelsh@avamissouri.org

**Phone:**

417-683-5516

ext. 204



### Greetings from South Central Division

We hope everyone is having a great summer and staying as cool as possible. My favorite season is fall so I am looking forward to the change in weather and all the fun upcoming events in our area. The City of Seymour will have Apple Festival Days September 12-14th, the City of Gainesville will have Hootin an Hollerin September 19-21st, and the City of Mansfield has Wilder Days September 27 & 28th. Dean Butler (Almonzo) will have an autograph signing on Friday, Sept. 27th at the Wilder Museum from 10 am-12 pm also there will be a dinner with Dean Butler (tickets cost \$85 per person). Information can be found on Facebook for all three area events.

Kellie Mayers, City of West Plains, hosted our August meeting on the 21st. The city sponsored our meal from Sugar Lily bakery and Cody Sanders, Public Relations as well as, Todd Shanks, Director of Community Services spoke to us about social media and getting grants from the State of Missouri Tourism for events. West Plains was one of the cities that was in the line of the solar eclipse, so they began planning a couple of years ago and received funds from the state tourism grant.



(continued on next page)

# SOUTH CENTRAL

CONTINUED



We had to say goodbye and best wishes to one of our fellow clerks, Heather Sponsler, City of Houston. She has left her city and will be a retired clerk and join the Circle of Friends. We hope to see Heather Sponsler, Mallory Snodgrass, and Mary Happel next spring during our clerk conference!

We will hold two more meetings to finish this year. One will be Wednesday, October 16th at Licking and then Wednesday, December 18th at Mountain Grove. Hope to see some of you at MML and have safe travels if you are attending.



# DIVISION DIRECTORS




## SOUTHEAST DIVISION

**Email:**  
cityclerk@eastprairiemo.net

**Phone:**  
573-649-3057  
ext. 104




LORI LEMONS



Southeast Division held their quarterly divisional meeting at the City of Sikeston City Hall, hosted by our Division President Rhonda Council, with approximately 15 in attendance. Mr. John Strickland with ICC Community Development Solutions/Lasefiche was our guest speaker- outlining and demonstrating their electronic records management. At the conclusion of the business meeting, the group toured The Post, which houses the Chamber of Commerce, Tourism, Economic Development, Historic Downtown Sikeston, and eventually, the Rodeo Museum. Afterwards, lunch was enjoyed at Susie's Bake Shop.

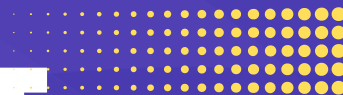
Our next meeting will be held in Malden, hosted by the City of Malden City Clerk, Mandy Lewis, on November 21st.





# SOUTHEAST

## Spotlight



Our Southeast Spotlight member is Cape Girardeau City Clerk Gayle Conrad.

Gayle has enjoyed the Cape Girardeau/Jackson area all of her life and began her municipal career in Cape on October 8, 1990 as a Public Works secretary where the foundation of her learning began. As the Public Works secretary, she gained a wealth of knowledge about the City, including all the streets! From there, Gayle was hired as the Deputy Clerk in November, 1992 and, in 1999, was appointed to her current position as City Clerk.

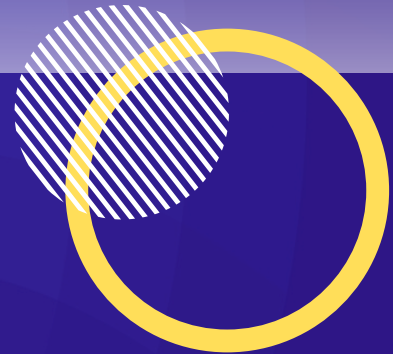
The most enjoyable part of her job would be her co-workers, they make the unbearable days bearable and the good days so much better. You never know what one of them will do-as in the police officer dancing on the table with his neck tie around his head dancing the night away at a Christmas party! Work days are so much brighter when you have co-workers that chip in when they know you need the extra pick-me-up without having to ask.

Throughout the years, Gayle has learned that everyone has a story-and you may be the difference they need. No matter who it is, the situation, or circumstance, just listen. Be kind.Be sincere. Their story matters-may not matter to anyone else, but it matters to them, at that instance.

One regret, Gayle says, is she waited too long to become involved in MoCCFOA and her Southeast Division. "MoCCFOA is such an amazing resource for city clerks and finance officers...from education sessions, to the mentors, and fellow clerks, I have learned so much." Gayle received her Missouri Professional City Clerk certification in March, 2020; IIMC Certified Municipal Clerk in December, 2003; and a Missouri Municipal League Certified Municipal Official in July, 2015. Gayle was our MoCCFOA Outstanding City Clerk of the Year in 2014, and served as our MoCCFOA President for the 2014-2015 term.



**GAYLE CONRAD**



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# SOUTHEAST *Spotlight*

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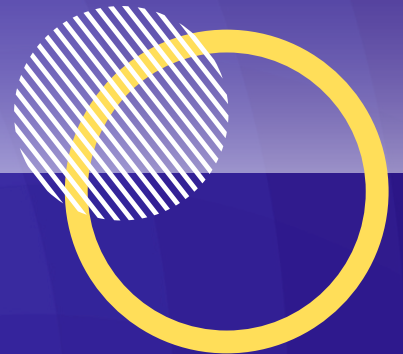
“Being part of MoCCFOA has been one of the highlights of my career... without the support of everyone in this organization, I would have never made it through all these years as a clerk” and encourages all clerks to get involved in the state organization as well as their division.

Gayle has been married to Robert Earl for 35 years (though been together for 40!), has 3 beautiful daughters, one step grandson, one grandson, and is patiently waiting on two granddaughters-one due in October and one due in December! She loves working with her husband making small wood crafts, building furniture, and remodeling (including theirs and two of their daughters’ homes!). When possible, she enjoys quiet time reading and spending time in holy adoration at the local churches/adoration chapel.

Thanks so much to Gayle Conrad, for your dedication to the City of Cape Girardeau and fellow city clerks!



**GAYLE CONRAD**



# DIVISION DIRECTORS



LAURA BURBRIDGE



## SOUTH WEST DIVISION

**Email:**

lburbidge@republicmo.com

**Phone:**

417-732-3101



I hope everyone had a wonderful summer! We are amping up after our summer break with our first meeting, hosted by Cassville at Springfield Underground to tour the Stronghold Data facility. I hope to see everyone at the MML Conference September 15th-18th. We are excited to have the conference in Branson this year, representing the Southwest Division. Our upcoming meetings are scheduled for September 25th in Ash Grove and October 30th in Kimberling City. Following that meeting, we take a break for Regionals and the holidays and will resume meetings in January. We are looking forward to the regional training by Reggie Harris, hosted in Nixa on October 2nd. I hope to see everyone there! If you are in the Southwest Division and not part of our distribution group with notifications of the upcoming meetings, please reach out to Melissa Ziemianin, [m.ziemianin@pinevillemo.us](mailto:m.ziemianin@pinevillemo.us), to be added to our list.



# DIVISION DIRECTORS



## WESTERN DIVISION

**Email:**  
ehill@raymore.com

**Phone:**  
816-892-3012



ERICA HILL



The Western Division held meetings in June in Drexel and August in Adrian. At the August meeting, Becky Schimmel was presented with the Circle of Friends certificate and pin, and gifts from the Division. Ms. Schimmel is retiring from Grandview in late September. The Division voted to amend the bylaws to increase dues and to change officer terms to 2 years. Our next meeting will be held at the MOCCFOA Regional training in Independence in September.

Andrea Cunningham, Belton, and Crystal Doss, North Kansas City, earned their Missouri Professional City Clerk certifications. Ms. Cunningham also has become a Paul Craig Athenian Fellow of the IIMC Leadership Society.



# CONGRATS

## Way to go!

**Jaki Welker**, (middle) Deputy City Clerk from Union is presented with her MPCC Certification from Sherri Klekamp, (left) City Clerk from Washington; and Jonita Copeland, (right) City Clerk of Union.



## MPCC CERTIFICATION

**Crystal Doss** received her MPCC Certification. She is pictured here with her board and Mallory Brown (right).



## CONGRATS!

**Abbie Ogborn** (center) received her MRCC Certification from Megan Eldridge (left) and Melody Rugh (right) from Warrenton.



# CONGRATS



## MMC Certified

**Lori Lemons**, City Clerk of East Prairie received her MMC! So proud of you!

**VOTE**

**DON'T FORGET**  
November 5, 2024

## Newsletter Committee

2024-2025

**Brooke Atha Bell**

City of Savannah, Newsletter Chair

**Stacey Leach**

CITY OF CAMDENTON

**Patrick Benwell**

CITY OF CRESTWOOD

**Megan Eldridge**

CITY OF WILDWOOD

**Kara Meyer**

CITY OF OWENSVILLE

**Laura Cather**

CITY OF KIMBERLING CITY

**Julie Greer**

CITY OF SPRINGFIELD

**Roschelle Forsythe**

CITY OF JOPLIN

