



Minute by Minute



North Carolina Association of County Clerks

September 2007

Editor: Amanda Jones, Randolph County

A Message from the President

Dear Fellow Clerks,

It was good to see many of you at the NC Association of County Commissioners' Conference in Cumberland County on Fri., 8/17. I would like to thank Marsha Fogle, Marie Colgan, and their Cumberland County colleagues, for hosting a successful NCACC Annual Conference.

Kathy Hughes, Buncombe County Clerk, was recognized as "Clerk of the Year" during the opening general session on Friday morning. We are proud of Kathy for representing the Association in such a capacity.

At our business meeting, Kathy Myers showed examples of the apparel with the clerk logo, which she purchased from The Queensboro Shirt Company in Wilmington, NC. Kathy volunteered to take orders for the shirts and distribute them at the regional workshops. If you are interested in placing an order, please visit the company's website at www.queensboro.com to view the merchandise. The deadline to place your order is Fri., 9/21. You may contact Kathy at 828-757-1301 or at

kmyers@caldwellcountync.org.

Linda Hardison and the Program Committee met, following the business meeting, to finalize the plans for the upcoming regional workshops. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the regional of your choice. Following is the schedule:
October 19: Piedmont, Bonnie Huntley, Anson County
October 26: Western, Kathy Myers, Caldwell County
November 2: Eastern, Marcia Wilson, Wayne County
Many thanks to the host clerks for volunteering to hold these one-day workshops.

Linda Hardison and I will soon be meeting with Fleming Bell and representatives from the Municipal Clerks Association to set the program for the City/County Clerks' School scheduled for Jan. 23-25, 2008. If you have a topic that you would like to have addressed, please contact Linda Hardison in Martin County or myself. We would welcome your ideas and suggestions.

I look forward to seeing you at the regionals.

Sincerely, Brenda B. Hunter, President

Notes of Thanks

Dearest County Clerks -
My sincere thanks for the beautiful flowers you sent when my father passed away. Your thoughtfulness and kindness during this difficult time is greatly appreciated.
Please keep my family in your prayers as we face the days ahead.
Love,
Janice

Brenda and All County Clerks,
Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers I received after my mother's recent death. Your cards, letters and prayers have meant so much. I feel truly honored and blessed to be part of the County Clerks' Association.
Thank again for all the support.
Hayfull Lee
Lee County

CLERKS IN THE NEWS

Congratulations to **LOIS ASKEW**, Washington County Clerk, who has a new granddaughter! Riley Paige Bundy was born 5/2 and weighed 8 lb., 6 oz. Pictured (at right) with Riley are big sister, Kayla, and big brother, Zach, who are very proud of their new little sister. Lois says, "I am very blessed to have grandchildren and enjoy every minute I can spend with them!"

Welcome to **ASHLEY SASSER**, the new Bladen County Clerk. She replaces Kathy Britt who has accepted a position with Southeastern Community College in Columbus County.

Our condolences go to **JANE COLE**, Forsyth County Clerk, on the loss of her father, Rev. Fred Fleming, on 7/19.

Congratulations to **KATHY YOUNG**, Mitchell County Clerk, whose son, Chris, was married 8/25. The happy couple spent their honeymoon in Hawaii.

Congratulations to **NANCY LITAKER**, Stanly County Clerk, whose son, Michael, married Holly Harris on 7/13. Michael is a Code Enforcement Officer with Stanly County and Holly is a Special Education teacher at Albemarle's Central Elementary School. We wish the happy couple a happy life together!

LIBBY CORN, Henderson County Clerk, and her husband, Benny, just returned from their trip to Japan for Mizue's wedding. Mizue was an exchange student who lived with them 11 years ago for one school year. She came back to visit them about 3 years ago. They have kept in touch with her and send packages back and forth once or twice a year. On May 7, Mizue e-mailed Libby and said, "Mom, I'm getting married on July 28 and I would love for you to come be part of our wedding." Libby said:

"Here are pictures from Japan! The 2nd picture is to prove we were there! Halfway through the reception, the couple changed out of their traditional Japanese kimonos and into a tuxedo and a wedding gown. We had never met any of her family before the wedding. We met Ishie the night before the wedding but he was calling us Mom and Dad before we parted. Mizue's grandfather and grandmother and her father didn't speak a word of English. Before we left, her grandmother was calling me Libby and saying OK! We spent 11 days in Japan; one week was after the wedding. Everyone we met was extremely helpful and cordial to us. Japan is beautiful, but it is crowded and expensive. We saw both urban and rural areas. They have some beautiful country side. We ate some interesting things. It was a good trip."



Just after being married @ Nanzenji Temple
in Kyoto, Japan --- July 28, 2007
Ishie & Mizue Kasajima



Libby & Benny with the newlyweds and their family.

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Sammy Evans—husband of Karen Evans, Alleghany County

Sammy has been having some medical problems since March.

Cpl John Griffin, USMC—fiancé of Amanda Jones, Randolph County

John is on a 6-month deployment to Iraq.

Ruth Morton—mother-in-law of Laura Morton, Montgomery County

Ruth has been really sick since June, and she has been placed in a nursing home.

Alfred Woody—father of Kathy Young, Mitchell County

Alfred is on dialysis three times a week.



NCACC President and Buncombe County Commissioner David Young presents **Kathy Hughes** with the Association of County Commissioners' Outstanding County Clerk of the Year during the Annual Conference, held 8/16-19 in Cumberland County.

Keynote Speaker: Michael J. Gelb

Michael J. Gelb served as the keynote speaker at the Annual NCACC Conference during Friday's opening general session; and then led a hands-on training session during Saturday morning's General Session to help county officials learn and master the leadership techniques they will need to guide the state through its growth. Thinking creatively, learning faster and leading change; these abilities will be at a premium as state and local governments try to deal with the critical infrastructure demands caused by this rapid growth. Counties' role in the state's intergovernmental system puts them in a position to serve as conveners with their local and state partners. Gelb is internationally recognized as a pioneer in the fields of creative thinking, accelerated learning, and innovative leadership. Gelb leads seminars for organizations such as BP, Nike, Merck, IBM, Microsoft, DuPont, and KPMG. He brings more than 25 years of experience as a professional speaker, seminar leader and organizational consultant to his diverse, international clientele. Gelb's topic for his keynote speech was "How to Think Like Leonardo da Vinci." His theory is that everyone is born a genius, but through circumstances and environment, it is lost. He gave 7 steps to get in touch with your genius:

- 1) Curiosita' (Curiosity about everything "truth, beauty, goodness")—Keep a daily journal or notebook. Write down all your thoughts. Later, you can go back and organize your thoughts. Ask questions of yourself, your children and others: "What did you learn today; what questions do you have about what you learned."
- 2) Dimonstrazione (Demonstration)—Test it out! Challenge and inquire. Today's problem is there is too much information available. Get objective feed-back on ideas with an open mind.
- 3) Sensazione (Sensation)—Your 5 senses are the minister's of your soul. Become a better listener; get better at seeing. Surround yourself with sharp people. Enjoy life! Savor every moment!
- 4) Sfumato (Intuition)—Embrace the unknown; maintain the perspective and be informed.
- 5) Arte/Scienza (Balance of art and science)—Study the science of art and the art of science; use your head. Look at abstract patterns with a free mind. Generate then organize. The problem with organized systems is they want to organize first, which hampers generating.
- 6) Corporalita' (Balance of body and mind)—Be well and well informed. Stay cheerful and eat healthy.
- 7) Conessione (All systems connect)—Stay with timeless principles and practical methods.

Visit Mr. Gelb's web site for more information at www.michaelgelb.com.

From the Desk of Fleming Bell

Clerks' School and IIMC News

Continue to check <http://www.sog.unc.edu/organizations/clerks/index.html> for the latest information on the Clerks' School and the Certification Institute. Scholarships are available for the Certification Institute. The deadlines for these scholarships, especially the ones from IIMC, come up before the course.

~Fleming

...because who doesn't need a little Maxine in their life!!

