

MLGMA

www.mlgma.org

MICHIGAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

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Michigan Municipal League

The Manager

The official newsletter of the Michigan Local Government Management Association

Affiliated with the Michigan Municipal League

Fall 2011

Note from the President

Steve Brock, City Manager, Farmington Hills, MI

“**F**resh off of both the ICMA Conference in Milwaukee and the MML Convention in Grand Rapids, I’m even more enthused about the future of our state and local governments. “Life is a Highway (Tom Cochran),” and we are sure on a wild ride.

One of the main speakers at ICMA was a guy from Harley Davidson who was part of the team of locals who brought H—D back from the brink. You talk about a challenge... Wow! Through hard work and perseverance against great odds, these guys remade a USA icon. That’s a lot like what we have to do every day. The journey is sometimes difficult, but the result—a better place to live, work, play, and learn—is worth all the effort.

Speaking of big efforts, the ICMA “Life, Well Run” campaign got a big boost from the Midwest Region (\$200,000 pledge) and ICMA R.C., which will match all members contributions dollar for dollar up to \$250,000. That means your pledge will be TRIPLED when you add in MLGMA’s match.

Please log onto ICMA.org and search for ‘Life, Well Run,’ to make your contribution today. As Alanis Morissette says, “Thank You.”

“Seasons change (Dave Mason),” and it was really evident in the beautiful colors of the trees and all of the artworks at ArtPrize in Grand Rapids for the MML Conference. The MML’s program featuring “Place” was excellent in my view, and the weather committee nailed it!

Mark Wollenweber graciously received the John M. Patriarche Colloquium Award based on his 40—plus years of exemplary service and a fine nomination penned by Daryl Delabbio (Kent County). Mark is now retired and is an official Range Rider, so, “if you just need a hand (Ringo Starr),” he can help.

It was my honor to present the Colloquium Award and introduce the speaker, Paul Hillemonds (DTE Energy), who did a fine job. Our state is blessed to have people like Paul fully engaged in making the “Place” better.

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IMCA 2011 Leadership Class

Michigan's Adam Brown and Victor Lauria graduate from two-year leadership program

“**Leadership ICMA** is a competitive, intensive, two-year **ICMA University** program designed to cultivate key competencies needed for successful leadership at all levels of local government management,” according to ICMA. The class of 15 participants from across the country completed five class modules, and they created Capstone Projects based on case studies of Palo Alto, California and Decatur, Georgia that “demonstrate how design thinking and ideation process can change your organization for the better.” The graduates received one year of experience “credit” toward the **ICMA Voluntary Credentialing Program**.

Among this year’s graduates, **Victor Lauria**, City of Novi Assistant Police Chief, and **Adam Brown**, Deputy County Administrator, Jackson County, lent their expertise to the class.

2013 Leadership Class Deadline Extended

You can still apply by October 31

ICMA is looking for local leaders to participate in their **2013 Leadership Class**. You are encouraged to apply by October 31, 2011. Applications will be considered by an admissions board, and applicants will be notified of their status by November 7, 2011.

View documents from the ICMA 2011 Leadership Class, check your eligibility, and register by visiting ICMA.org/LEAD

Note from the President continued from page 1

Governor Snyder was also there and gave a nice talk expressing his support and appreciation for what we do every day. Personal Property Tax came up, of course with no further details. I gather that he would like to see a different system or source for that revenue but is struggling with the legislature on that point.

I take some solace in that Jase Bolger, House Speaker, said at the Awards Banquet; “If the legislature wanted to just get rid of PPT, it could have voted to already.” Maybe he knows something. Any—who, no “Wasted Days and Wasted Nights (Freddie Fender)” for this governor, just relentless positive action! His special message on transportation is set for late October, but no one seems to know much about what might be included. Can’t wait!

I love Fall and am NOT looking forward to Winter EXCEPT for the Winter Institute in East Lansing! Michael Young and his posse are whipping up a great program, and I hope you can attend. All the technology, webcasts, teleconferencing, etc. is all well and good, but it is no substitute for good old fashion face time and networking. You can’t drink a virtual beer together (I don’t think...is there an app for that yet? No way)!

Alright, that’s it from me for now. God bless you and “God Bless America” (Kate Smith—you Nextgenners may have to Google that one—lol).

Sincerely,

Steve Brock,
MLGMA President
City Manager, Farmington Hills, MI
SBrock@fhgov.com

Next Gen Makes it Formal

Kicks off professional development activities with Finance Workshop

The MLGMA Board recently approved the creation of a committee focused on developing new and future local government managers. The Next Gen group has been operating as an informal group of new and aspiring managers, and focused on social networking and professional development, for the past two years. With their new status, the formal committee is planning to take a more proactive role in attracting new people to the profession, preparing potential managers for future positions, and helping to further develop current members into more effective and efficient local government managers.

The Next Gen Committee is planning a number of professional development activities over the next six months. The first such event will be held on October 27, 2011, when the group will host a workshop; "Introduction to Budgeting & Finance."

The workshop will feature lunch, and four short lectures on developing a budget, the manager's role in the annual audit, financing public projects, and fiscal forecasting. This event is designed for aspiring managers, new managers, and managers with limited finance experience.

Speakers at the public finance workshop include Steve Kirinovic, Principal at Abraham & Gaffney P.C., Warren Creamer, Director of Public Finance at R.W. Baird & Co. Incorporated, John Kaczor, of Municipal Analytics, and Assistant City Manager and Finance Director of Battle Creek Jim Ritsema.

We hope to see many new and aspiring managers on the 27th. Pass this information on to anyone in your office who could benefit from the public finance workshop or Next Gen's future events.

Space in "Introduction to Budgeting & Finance" is limited, so please RSVP to Derrick Kozicki at dkozicki@rochestermi.org or phone (248) 609-0602. Also contact him if you are interested in getting involved with the Next Gen Committee.

Contributed by **Frank Peterson**, City Manager, Springfield, MI

Find out more about the Next Gen Committee at www.mlgmanextgen.blogspot.com

EVENT DETAILS

Introduction to Budgeting & Finance

October 27, 2011

Michigan Municipal League
208 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing, MI

- 12 p.m.** Lunch (courtesy Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated)
- 12:15 p.m.** *Introductions by Derrick Kozicki, Rochester Assistant City Manager*
- 12:30 p.m.** *Budget Development w/ Jim Ritsema, Battle Creek Assistant City Manager*
- 1:00 p.m.** *City Manager's Role in the Audit Process w/ Steve Kirinovic, Abraham & Gaffney, P.C.*
- 1:15 p.m.** *Financing Public Projects w/ Warren Creamer, Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated*
- 1:30 p.m.** *Budget Forecasting Models w/ John Kaczor, Municipal Analytics*
- 2 p.m.** Adjourn

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Next Gen “Introduction to Budgeting & Finance” Workshop

October 27
12 p.m. – 2 p.m.
MML Capitol Office
208 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing

See **Frank Peterson’s contribution on Page 3** for complete information about the new Next Gen Committee and its first event in a series of professional development activities.
www.mlgmanextgen.blogspot.com

MI Green Communities Conference

October 28
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
MML Capitol Office
208 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing

The 2nd Annual Michigan Green Communities Conference will provide local government and university leaders an opportunity to learn about cutting-edge environmental projects and policies from their peers and experts from around the State of Michigan. Find details and register for MML events at www.mml.org/events/calendar.htm

ICMA Webinars & Web Conferences

The International City/County Management Association (ICMA) has a number of webinars and web conferences scheduled for Fall. Visit icma.org/en/icma/newsroom/events

“311 – Not Business as Usual: Shared Services Model”
Webinar; October 26, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

“Improving Organizational Performance: Your Leadership Playbook”
Web Conference; October 27, 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

“Guiding Your Organization Strategically through Priority Based Budgeting”
Web Conference; November 2, 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

“Preparing Your Contact Center for Any Disaster”
Webinar; November 2, 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.

IRS Webinar on “Reporting of Employer-Sponsored Health Plan Coverage on Form W-2”

October 31
2 p.m.

The IRS addresses “employer reporting requirements established by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act” in its free webinar. The presenters are Joseph Tiberio, Program Manager, Employment Tax, and Stephen Tackney, Special Counsel to the Associate Chief Counsel (TEGE), Office of Chief Counsel. Find out more on the [IRS Website](#) and [Register Online](#).

Alliance for Innovation Events

The Alliance for Innovation, a partner of the ICMA, is hosting a number of webinars this fall and a Conference in Piqua, Ohio December 1, 2011. For information on all of their upcoming events, visit transformgov.org/en/calendar

“Ambassador Innovation Series: Design Thinking”
Webinar
October 20; 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.

“Alliance Resources and Knowledge Network Training”
Webinar
November 10 & December 8;
1 p.m. – 2 p.m.

“Regional Innovations: Shared Opportunities for Schools and Local Government Partnerships”
Conference in Piqua, Ohio
December 1; 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. (CST)

MLGMA Winter Institute 2012

January 31 – February 3, 2012
East Lansing, MI

Save the date for the next Winter Institute, MLGMA’s main training workshop. An emphasis on “nuts and bolts issues” is at the heart of the annual event. Join government leaders for networking and learning. For information on upcoming and past MLGMA events, please visit www.mlgma.org/events

Mark Wollenweber's 40-plus year career honored with Patriarche Award

Former Grosse Pointe Woods City Manager Mark Wollenweber was honored with the 2011 John M. Patriarche Colloquium Award at the Michigan Municipal League's Annual Conference, this September.

Mark served as president of the board, 1989-1990, when MLGMA was MCMA. He recently retired from serving as City Administrator of Grosse Pointe Woods after his work as City Manager of Huntington Woods and then St. Claire Shores, along with his beginnings in Westland and Plymouth. He has served on the Michigan Municipal League Board of Trustees, been an ICMA Regional VP for the midwest, and won an ICMA Service Award in 2007.

May Mark enjoy as much freedom as he pleases in his retirement after a 40-plus year career managing Michigan cities. But let us also be glad to have his continued mentorship as a Range Rider.



Mark Wollenweber receives his award at the MML Annual Conference, this September

Julius Suchy lands in Dundee, bids Vassar, *adieu*.

After two years of serving the City of Vassar as City Manager, Julian Suchy resigned to take his new gig as Village Manager of Dundee. His spot in Vassar was recently filled by Brad Barrett, the former Assistant to the Vice President for Government Relations at Oakland University. May your new endeavors be all you hope for!

Robert Moffit receives 2010 George C. Askew Award

City Manager of Gladwin, MI Robert Moffit was honored this July by the American Academy of Certified Public Managers for his Capstone Project, "Gladwin Michigan Downtown Revitalization Project." Congratulations on your achievement, Bob!

Not yet a member?

Take a gander at MLGMA's membership registration form online; www.mlgma.org/membership.html or email membership@mlgma.org

Any Suggestions?

Do you have an idea for an article you would like to see in The Manager newsletter?

Do you know of an upcoming event?

Would you like to comment on something you read?

Email ideas to MLGMA President Steve Brock at SBrock@fhgov.com

The Michigan Local Government Management Association is the professional association for local government managers from municipalities, counties, and townships throughout the state of Michigan. The non-profit organization is the Michigan section of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), and members follow ICMA's code of ethics. MLGMA is affiliated with the Michigan Municipal League. *The Manager* newsletter is edited for MLGMA by **Jennifer Eberbach**, a contract writer and journalist in Ann Arbor, MI. jennifereberbach@gmail.com