



Quarterly

Quill



Spring 2026 Edition

UMCA President Message

As spring transitions into summer, I want to take a moment to reflect on the accomplishments and connections we have shared as municipal professionals. The 2026 UMCA Institute and Academy, held April 6–10 at Southern Utah University, was a tremendous success. With 159 participants—107 attending in person and 52 joining virtually. The event demonstrated the commitment of our members to professional growth and lifelong learning.

This year's theme, "Find Your North Star, Leading with Integrity and Purpose," reminded us of the important role clerks and recorders play in serving our communities. Your dedication, leadership, and professionalism are essential to effective local government.

UMCA also hosted Clerks/Recorders Day on April 23 during the Utah League of Cities and Towns Mid-Year Conference in St. George. The specialized training sessions provided valuable opportunities for learning, collaboration, and networking among peers.

Looking ahead, we invite you to join us for the 2026 UMCA Annual Conference, September 29–October 2, at the Eccles Conference Center in Ogden. We look forward to another outstanding opportunity for education, networking, and professional development.

Thank you for all that you do. UMCA is here to support you throughout your career. If you are new to the profession, don't hesitate to reach out to fellow clerks and recorders or utilize the UMCA online forum to ask questions and share ideas. One of the greatest strengths of our association is the willingness of members to help one another succeed.

I appreciate each of you and wish you continued success in the months ahead. Thank you for your service, your commitment, and your contributions to your communities and our profession.

Warm Regards,

Kim Crane
UMCA President



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UMCA: <https://umca.org>
IIMC: <https://www.iimc.com>



Save the Date

UMCA Annual 2026 Conference
September 30 - October 2, 2026
Eccles Conference Center in Ogden

UMCA Institute & Academy
Future Conference Dates
April 5-9, 2027

I&A Conference Recap



UMCA Institute & Academy Reviews

FAVORITE SPEAKER / SESSION

"I think my favorite speaker was Randal McUne the attorney. It was very helpful and he went into enough depth and explained things so well, especially for a beginner."

~ Brittany Kempff of Taylorsville City

"I loved both the session on noticing and the session on agendas and minutes! These are a big part of what I do and I really love being able to come together and get questions answered and hear experiences from other recorders!"

~ Misty Moesser of Perry

"I really enjoyed Thom Wootton and Justin Fischer. Both of their presentations on IT and AI."

~ Jamie Olsen of Lake Point

BIGGEST TAKEAWAY

"This was my first conference. By biggest takeaway is there is a huge community I can lean on and gain support from. I learned a lot technical aspects for my position as well as leadership skills, but overall I loved finding a community of like professionals."

- Jessilyn Stagg of Erda City

"I love the networking aspect of the conference and hearing the real life situations from all of the cities and learning from them."

- Amy Durrans of Clinton City

"What I found extremely helpful from this conference was all the information about AI. There were several

sessions, and I learned a lot. Specifically, Data Privacy and how to protect your city's information; I learned about some new softwares that I was not utilizing, and a lot of ways I can incorporate it into my work."

~ Celeste Cram of Kanab City

"That we are all continually learning and doing the best that we can. And, that we are all in this journey together."

~ Dana Lazcanotegui of Smithfield City

"The biggest takeaways were the networking, learning updates, and discussing better ways to do our jobs."

~ Anita Nicholas of Perry

"I have so much to learn and so much to do to get my town up to date or find out if we already are."

~ Abigail Palsgrove of Big Water

"We have so much support in each other as clerks and recorders!"

~ Misty Moesser of Perry

FAVORITE MEMORY

"My favorite memory from the week (Public communication and building resident trust)."

~ Sherita Schaefer of Mantua

"The time spent & ability to meet and converse with others that are dealing with the same or similar issues as I am dealing with at work. It makes me feel that I am not alone - that I have people I can reach out to for help if needed."

~ Launi Petersen of Clarkston Town

“Wendy Downs sounds like a total breath of fresh air! It’s amazing how a bit of genuine humor can completely shift the energy of a professional conference and keep everyone engaged.”

~ Sherita Schaefer of Mantua

“All of the great people willing to answer questions I had.”

~ Jennifer Rose of Howell

“My favorite memory was from the Wine & Paint night. I’m not usually one to attend after hours events, and I decided to get out of my comfort zone, and I’m so glad I did. I was able to connect with several other Clerks, have a really good time and create some fun art. I will definitely be attending more often.”

~ Celeste Cram of Kanab City

“I have loved the knowledge shared by presenters, and rubbing shoulders with the wonderful ladies at my table this year. It is so helpful to network with people who do a job similar to mine. Sometimes I feel very alone in the day today tasks I try and conquer and learn every day. The knowledge I gain from these trainings help me to be a better Recorder and a better person. Thank you so much for doing this an entire 5 days, I can not get enough. See you next year.”

~ Jamie Olsen of Lake Point



“Genuine Happiness” – Rap

Yeah

Talkin’ real life, not the highlight reel
What actually matters, what you really feel
We chase distractions, boats, cash, and gold
Think the more we stack up, the happier we’ll hold
But the truth hits different when you break it down
All that outside stuff don’t move the crown
They said money helps, yeah it eases the stress
But past a certain point, it don’t add happiness
You can grind all day, stack a hundred K
Still feel empty if you give your time away
Yeah, life got phases, highs and lows
Teens feel everything, that’s how it goes
Midlife crisis? Nah, that’s a myth
Happiness don’t hinge on age like this
We adapt quick, that’s the human design
Bad or good events, we reset over time
New car, new house, yeah it feels brand new
Three months later, it’s just normal to you
That’s the treadmill, always wantin’ more
Chasin’ next thing you can’t ignore
Comparison kills, aspirations rise
You level up once, then you raise the prize
Genes play a role, yeah that’s part true
But forty percent is controlled by you
So what you gon’ do with that power in hand
Build a life that actually stands
Relationships first, that’s the biggest key
Not the number of people, just quality
Love runs deeper than anything else
More than success or material wealth
Purpose matters, what you wake up for
A job ain’t enough, gotta find something more
Turn work to a calling, give it meaning and drive
That’s the kind of thing that makes you feel alive
Gratitude daily, three good things
Train your mind to notice what life brings
Even on days when it all feels rough
You’ll start to see that it’s still enough
Not about looks, not about fame
Not about playing some status game
It’s connection and meaning, simple and clear
That’s what builds real happiness here
So slow it down, be present, don’t miss
The people you love and the moments like this
‘Cause at the end of it all, when you strip the fluff
Love’s what matters... and that’s enough

~ Tara Silver of Spanish Fork

I&A Conference Recap



UMCA Institute & Academy in Pictures



I&A Nightly Activities



Behind the Scenes at Southern Utah Museum of Art

A free activity where the UMCA conference attendees were able to go on an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of the collections space!



Wine & Paint at IGWinery

The UMCA conference attendees enjoyed an evening of creativity and indulgence at the Wine & Paint night at IGWinery.



Athenian Dialogue

"Leaders Eat Last" by Simon Sinek



Magic Show & Karaoke Night

The UMCA conference attendees experienced a night full of mind-blowing magic tricks and karaoke jams at the Holiday Inn.

Achievements



Congratulations!

to all who have earned their designations or have retired since our last edition of the Quarterly Quill.



UCC Certification earned by:

- Wendy Wells, Saratoga Springs
- Teresa McKittrick, Orem

CMC Designation earned by:

- Hana Park, Washington City
- Annemarie Plaizier, Kaysville
- Valerie Andersen, Gunnison City
- Jennifer Robison, Centerville City



MMC Designation earned by:

- Lacey Belnap, Centerfield City



Regional Buzz

Regional Group Spotlights from Institute & Academy

DMWRA consists of Davis, Morgan, and Weber County recorders and clerks. They consist of 51 active members covering 31 cities in those counties. The DMWRA board for 2026 consists of Cynthia Benson of Harrisville, President, Michelle Marigoni of Riverdale, Vice-President, Morghan Yeoman of Hooper, Treasurer, and Katie Hansen of West Point, Secretary. DMWRA meets ten (10) times a year for what they call Lunch & Learns. This year they have held these Lunch & Learns on the recorder's role in community development, statutory requirements regarding budgets, and an open forum about the recent legislative updates.

GSLCR or better known as Greater Salt Lake. Over the past year, this region has focused on election member engagement and strengthening connections between our cities. They have facilitated an Athenian dialogue for members to gain points. They've hosted several lunches and built relationships in foster communities. They currently have 33 cities with 45 active members. This year, they're continuing to build on the momentum by increasing engagement and offering a full schedule of training including cemetery, historic preservation, and opportunities for members to connect with luncheons. They had a recent training course with the Draper City Attorney on writing ordinances and resolutions.

BRAG consists of Box Elder, Cache, and Rich counties with Holly Jones as President, Dana Lazcanotegui as first vice president, Anita Nicholas as second vice president, and Misty Moesser as secretary. They meet once a quarter for a lunch meeting. Their first quarter meeting was about training, not only for clerks and recorders, but also the training they need to be aware of for our

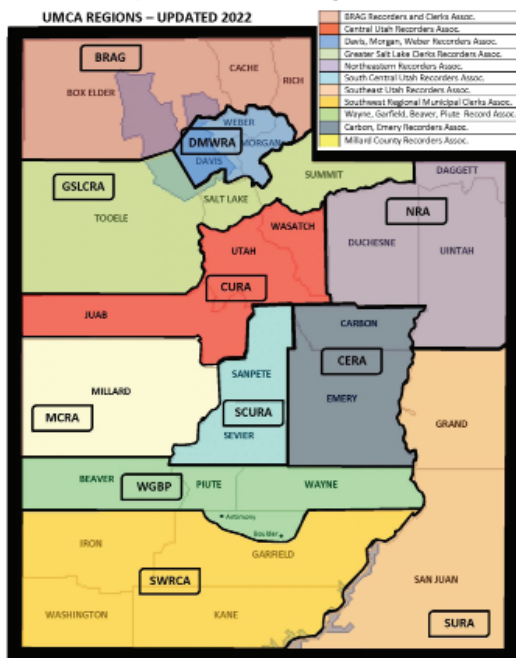
newly elected officials and new staff. Their next quarterly meeting will be on truth and taxation. Ms. Jones commented on how much she appreciates and is grateful for the remarkable recorders they have in their region and their willingness to happily help each other.

CURA encompasses the counties of Utah, Wasatch, and Juab and is made up of an awesome group of women and men. Stephanie Cottle is president, Heidi Allman is vice-president, and Teresa McKittrick is treasurer, Amalie Ottley is secretary.

They have about 50 members, and meet monthly, which they feel is wonderful, because they have a lot of really great networking that happens in their group. They learn a lot from each other. This year, their theme is taken from the book, *The Speed of Trust*, where they are learning about the keys of successful leadership. Every month, they learn about a different key. So far, they have discussed how trust plays a big role in our roles, how it's important to right the wrongs, and how it's important to talk straight. They have also had training on ethics and legislative bill tracking. Their next training will be data privacy and security.

SCURA is located in the center of the state and consists of Sanpete and Sevier counties. They have accomplished a lot of different things over the past year. Their participation has improved considerably over the past year. The largest city they have in their area is Richfield. They see their region as small communities helping other small communities. They readily email each other and share items to help each other do what they do. They have three (3) gentlemen in their group now. In their group, it is basically the city recorder, no city man-agers, along with the city council, running these tiny communities.

Candice



BRAG

Box Elder
Cache
Rich

DMWRA

Davis
Morgan
Weber

GSLCRA

Tooele
Salt Lake
Summit

CURA

Juab
Utah
Wasatch

NRA

Duchesne
Daggett
Uintah

MCRA

Millard

SCURA

Sanpete
Sevier

CERA

Carbon
Emery

SURA

Grand
San Juan

WGBP

Beaver
Piute
Wayne

SWRCA

Iron
Garfield
Washington
Kane

Maudsley, president, gave kudos in her remarks to these incredible recorders who are working under solitary conditions and doing a remarkable job.

SWRCA is in southern Utah and comprises Kane, Washington, Iron, and Garfield counties. They meet quarterly. They hold their training over zoom. Their last was on retention. Selena Nez serves as president with Hana Park as vice-chair, Sharon Allen as secretary and Cindy Beteag as treasurer. They have the recorder from Cedar City retiring this year after twenty (20) years of service. They consist of thirty-three (33) cities with twenty (20) active members.

BOARD NOTE: Casey Arnold, Membership Director, added at the close of the association reports, if any group is struggling with training ideas, the board is happy to help with ideas or contacts for possible training. Do not let meetings every month overwhelm you. Some groups are overachievers. There are little to no cost options out there for your association to learn from.

For information about other regional groups go to: https://umca.org/Regional_Groups.



CURA Group Picture From I&A



DMWRA Group Picture from I&A

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