

March  
2013

# Quest

## 77TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Whew! I think I heard a collective sigh of relief on March 1 from all of my Indiana colleagues because our annual reports were finally done. In my city, we went from three annual reports to seven. Quite a change from last year and following the happenings in the Indiana Legislature this session, I'm sure there's more change to come.

Our Legislative Committee, chaired by Greenfield Clerk-Treasurer Larry Breese and Tell City Clerk-Treasurer Jenny Richter with assistance from revered Highland Clerk-Treasurer Michael Griffin, is working on several initiatives for the benefit of our members. HB 1145 has passed the House and moved on to the Senate. Here is a summary:

Authorizes a political subdivision or municipally owned utility to charge a reasonable fee for convenience when accepting a credit or bank card for payments. The fee for credit and like cards must be uniform, cannot be more than \$3, and may be collected regardless of retail merchant agreements between the bank and credit card vendors that may prohibit such fees.

Provides that unused and unencumbered funds from any fiscal year and certain specified sources may be transferred to a rainy day fund at any time. There are other rainy day fund clarification provisions as well.

Provides that if a town publishes any of its ordinances in book or pamphlet form, no other publication is required in order for the ordinance to take effect. Provides that a town ordinance prescribing a penalty or forfeiture for a violation takes effect two weeks after publication. These provisions align towns with the same authority as cities.

If you would like to follow HB 1145 or any House or Senate bill in the Indiana Legislature, register with Bill Watch at <http://www.in.gov/apps/lisa/session/billwatch>.

The 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and State Board of Accounts School will be held in Fort Wayne beginning June 9 through June 13 at the Grand Wayne Conference Center. The host hotel is the Courtyard by Marriott. Co-Chairs Janet Jaros, Noblesville, and Vicki Kitchen, North Liberty, are working diligently to assure that your time is filled with educational opportunities and some fun, too. Various state agencies, including the State Board of Accounts and Department of Local Government Finance, will make presentations. You will also learn about new laws affecting cities and towns. In addition, the membership will elect officers for the incoming year, adopt a budget, and consider various changes to the constitution and bylaws. A brochure will be mailed in March. I hope you will make every effort to join your Indiana colleagues in Fort Wayne in June. See you there!

Thank you for what you do for your community each and every day.

Take care and all the best,

Deb Twitchell  
ILMCT President





By Rhonda Engle and Beth Neff, Education Co-Chairs



## Education Notes

The Education Committee would like to thank everyone who attended the Institute and Academy in Muncie. We had 122 people attend during the week. This was a GREAT turnout! The classes were wonderful and the net working was superb! We had excellent classes this year, and several of our instructors were Clerk-Treasurers. It is exceptionally helpful that we have Clerk-Treasurers who are willing to share their knowledge and experience, not only with the new Clerk-Treasurers, but with the seasoned Clerk-Treasurers as well.

The June conference classes that will be offered are, TIF (Tax Increment Financing)-The Basic & Beyond, Managing the Risks of Investing, and Social media. Also, the State Board of Accounts will hold two (2) days of classes. This year's Conference will be in Ft. Wayne, at the Downtown Courtyard Marriott and Grand Wayne Center, June 9th through the 13th. We look forward to seeing you in June!

Rhonda Engle      Co-Chair  
Beth Neff            Co-Chair



## Ask Charlie

[cpride@sboa.in.gov](mailto:cpride@sboa.in.gov)

**Q** Question: Can a city or town establish a charge for checks that are returned because of insufficient funds?

**A.** Yes. It is our audit position that a bad check service charge could be established by a local home rule ordinance if the amount of the charge did not exceed the amount listed in IC 35-43-5-5. The maximum amount which can be charged in IC 35-43-5-5 is the greater of twenty-seven dollars and fifty cents [\$27.50] or five percent [5%] of the amount due, but not more than two hundred fifty dollars [\$250].

# ILMCT 2013 INSTITUTE-ACADEMY



## Important Dates for 2013 -

May 19th through May 24th—IIMC Annual Conference in Atlantic City, New Jersey  
June 9th through June 13th—ILMCT Annual Conference and SBA School in Ft Wayne  
August 4th through August 7th—APT of US and Canada in Houston, Texas  
October 6th through October 9th—IACT Annual conference in Downtown Indianapolis  
October 23rd & 24th—Northern District meeting in Shipshewana  
October 29th & 30th—Southern District meeting in Columbus



*QUEST* is published quarterly by the Indiana League of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers (ILMCT), for and about Indiana's Clerks, Clerk-Treasurers, Deputies and Controllers.

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