

Clerk's Corner November 2016

Thank you

2016 has been a great year and as it starts to come to a close, I would like to look back at all that has happened and publicly thank everyone for all the opportunities I have been afforded. There were many chances for me to make more interpersonal connections this past year.

Connecting with the youth in our community is very important and has been a large part of my year. I connected with many young adults on the importance of being an engaged citizen with the help of the League of Women Voters at voter registration drives, with Town Hall staff for a presentation to graduating seniors and by encouraging high schoolers to volunteer within town hall. Even working with the younger students at The Buker School through two mock elections allowed me to explain the democratic process and the importance of being a good citizen to the next generation. The students even elected the shape for the 2017 Wenham dog tag. Speaking to local groups such as the Council on Aging, the League of Women Voters and the Hamilton Wenham Rotary club about clerk duties and especially early voting proved to me that every one of all ages craves to know more. This monthly article has also been appreciated by many readers who are interested in additional learning.

My year as Mrs. Essex County 2016 was another great vehicle to meet with people and share experiences. I thank the residents of the Town of Wenham for allowing me to venture off to parades, events and meetings not to mention the eleven days of the fair as I represented the Essex Agricultural Society and the Topsfield Fair. I thank the many Massachusetts Town Clerks for also agreeing to get involved in the Fair and volunteer their time to help run the State Voter Registration table there.

The relationships gained from these events is what I am most grateful for. Being in contact with Wenham residents; meeting people and other Wenham-ites at Mrs Essex County events; talking students at their schools; and connecting MA clerks with the Topsfield Fair was all very gratifying.

With all four elections of 2016 behind us, a new Mrs. Essex County to carry the crown and a new President-Elect, life does go on. The winter, including the snow and sleet, will come

just as the state mandated census and dog license applications. Preparations for the 2017 Town Meeting will go into high gear. The call will go out for nominations for the local elected offices and opportunities will arise to meet, greet and make connections with each other. It is my hope that each and every one of us will take advantage of these opportunities as we all try to live peacefully in our society today. Life is only as good as those in it. Let's bring out the good in each other and enjoy the world around us.

*Dianne Kaplan Bucco was elected the Town Clerk of Wenham in April 2014. More information on the Wenham Town Clerk can be found at [www.wenhamma.gov](http://www.wenhamma.gov) and by following the Wenham Town Clerk on Facebook.*