

2023 Fall Education Days

WMCA will be holding Fall Education Days in Wenatchee, WA!!! Registration will be open July 5, 2023. The dates will be September 21st and 22nd, 2023 at the Hilton Garden Inn, Wenatchee, WA.

Come to Wenatchee for an Athenian Dialogue or an Academy or both! Registration will be available online at wmcaclerks.org July 5, 2023. The registration fee is \$175.00 for the Athenian Dialogue and \$175.00 for the Academy. Registration online is available and encouraged however you do have the option of mailing in a check.

Rooms are \$98.00 plus tax per night. Call to make your reservation at Hilton Garden Inn 509-662-0600 and say it is for the WA Municipal Clerks Association Sept 21, 22, or the link to register at the hotel: <https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?ctyhocn=EATYOGI&groupCode=CLERKS&arrivaldate=2023-09-20&departuredate=2023-09-22&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT>

Thursday, September 21, is the Athenian Dialogue facilitated by Mary Lynne Stratta, The book is *Destiny of the Republic*. There are only 35 spots available on a first come, first served basis. **Attendees are required to purchase their own book and read the book prior to the dialogue.** The dialogue has been approved for three IIMC CMC or MMC education points with the satisfactory and timely completion of a learning assessment.

Destiny of the Republic: A Tale of Madness, Medicine and the Murder of a President

By Candice Millard

Attendees are required to purchase their own book and read the book prior to the dialogue.

This book is the story of our 20th U.S. President, James A. Garfield, who was assassinated by a deranged madman shortly after taking office. Garfield was born into poverty. His father and uncle had a few acres in the Ohio wilderness where they struggled to squeeze a few crops out of the unkind environment to support their families. A wildfire took his father's life while attempting to save the family farm, and he left behind his widow and four small children, the youngest being two-year old James. The family managed to get by because of Garfield's mother and eleven year-old brother working the farm for a meager existence for the family. Young James didn't have a pair of shoes until he was four years old. James, however, from a very early age, was an avid reader. His mother believed strongly in education. James left home at age 16 to work the canals on the Great Lakes. A close encounter with death convinced him he needed to return to school and complete his education. However, he had contracted malaria and was very ill for several months after returning home. In the meantime, his mother and brother had managed to save \$17, and James took this money and enrolled in a small university, where he studied hard and excelled as a student. He began teaching courses while still completing his own education. By age 26, he was president of the university.

Garfield was an avid believer in science at a time when the country was experiencing an industrial and scientific revolution and inventors were creating new contraptions that would change our way of life forever. For example, Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone during this time. Bell would later invent a metal detecting machine in an effort to locate the assassin's bullet that was lodged in President Garfield's body. Unfortunately, American doctors were lagging far behind their European counterparts in their refusal to believe in antiseptic medicine to prevent something called germs being introduced into the body during surgery. This refusal to believe in antiseptic medical practices is what ended President Garfield's life, not the bullet in his body.

While serving as President of the university, Garfield was tapped to run for Ohio State Senator, a position he handily won and where he served with thoughtfulness and quiet leadership. His position against slavery was well known. In 1860 he was admitted to the state bar to practice law. He opposed confederate secession. During the Civil War, Garfield entered the Union Army as a very young officer. His brilliant

military strategy to secure the state of Kentucky for the Union, against a bigger and better armed Confederate regiment and much more experienced commanding officer, catapulted him to the rank of general and made his name more commonly known in the northern states. In 1863 he was elected to the U.S. Congress, where he served his native Ohio and our country well. He focused his energies on equal rights for freed blacks, including the right to vote and to travel freely without carrying identification papers showing their status as freed slaves. He also advocated the modernization of America through the many great strides being made in the sciences. He was known as a brilliant public speaker and was called upon by Congress to deliver an impromptu eulogy on the one-year anniversary of Lincoln's death.

The book goes into great detail about a time in our country when politics were in a great uproar following Lincoln's assassination and there was a struggle for a predominant party to unify and lead the country. Indeed when Garfield was nominated as the Republican nominee for President, he was not even a contender, did not want the nomination, and was at the convention to nominate another person. By the end of the convention, Garfield was named their nominee against his wishes or desires, but through a sense of duty, moved forward with accepting the nomination. Garfield's presidency lasted only 200 days. As president, he advocated a bi-metal monetary system, agricultural technology, an educated electorate and civil rights for African Americans. He proposed substantial civil service reform, which eventually was passed in 1883 by his successor, Chester Arthur, as the Pendleton Civil Service Reform Act. Garfield was a well-respected, thoughtful, selfless leader throughout his political career.

Destiny of the Republic discusses the convergence of politics, history and science at a crucial time in our country's history. The book concentrates on Garfield's journey to pull himself up from miserable poverty to become President, and how education was the tool he used to change his life. His brief presidency and his outstanding leadership qualities tell us that Garfield, the last of the log cabin presidents, would have been a tremendous president had his life tragically not been cut short.

About MARY LYNNE STRATTA:

Mary Lynne Stratta was appointed City Secretary of the City of Bryan, Texas, by the Bryan City Council in 1990, and has over 40 years of experience in local government administration. She is a graduate of the Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program, administered through the University of North Texas, holding the designation of Texas Registered Municipal Clerk. Mrs. Stratta was awarded the Certified Municipal Clerk designation by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) in 1996 and was certified as a Master Municipal Clerk by IIMC in 2004.

Mrs. Stratta served as the 2009-2010 President of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks, following service as IIMC's Vice President, President Elect and member of the IIMC Board of Directors (2003-2006). In 2003, Mrs. Stratta won the prestigious Quill Award from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks, considered to be the highest honor that can be bestowed upon a municipal clerk. She served as the 2005 President of the Texas Municipal Clerks Association and was named City Clerk of the Year for the State of Texas in 2002. She was also named City Clerk of the Year by her TMCA Chapter on four different occasions. In 2020, she was the recipient of TMCA's first Distinguished Service Award, in recognition of a career-long commitment to TMCA and the city clerk profession. She served on the Board of Directors of the Texas Municipal League. She currently serves as President of the Board of Directors of the IIMC (formerly MCEF) Education Foundation.

In 2009, she was inducted as a Fellow in the Athenian Leadership Society, an advanced leadership program of the IIMC. Since that time, she has greatly enjoyed facilitating leadership dialogues at IIMC conferences and for several state associations. She also serves as a facilitator mentor for other clerks wishing to become dialogue facilitators for IIMC. In 2009, Mrs. Stratta was named as an Honorary Fellow of the Institute of Local Council Management, University of Gloucestershire, Cheltenham, England.

Mrs. Stratta serves as an instructor of educational sessions for IIMC, the National League of Cities, the Texas Municipal League, the Texas Municipal Clerks Certification Program, and various other state and national associations, cities and organizations.

Mrs. Stratta also serves as the Communications/Marketing Director and Legislative Director for the City of Bryan. She also oversees Neighborhood/Youth Services, Municipal Court, the City Marshals Office, and Vital Statistics. She serves as the Chief Election Official for the City of Bryan and as Parliamentarian for the Bryan City Council. She is a member of the National and Texas Association of Parliamentarians. She co-chairs the Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce Legislative Affairs Committee.

Following a tragic fire in February of 2013, where two Bryan Fire Department Lieutenants were killed in the line of duty and two firefighters were seriously burned, she and five Bryan firefighters created and chartered the Helping Heroes Burn Foundation, Inc., a 501 c 3 organization that exists to provide financial assistance to firefighters seriously burned in the line of duty, to families of firefighters killed in the line of duty, and to promote skin organ donor registration through partnership with existing donor organizations. Mrs. Stratta serves as Secretary of the HHBF Board of Directors.

Mrs. Stratta attended Blinn College and Texas A&M University. A native of Bryan, she and her husband, J.J., have four sons and daughters-in-law, ten beautiful grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

On Friday, September 22nd, Kent Julian will be facilitating a six hour session. Theme: Life Truly Begins When You Move Beyond Your Comfort Zone

AM Session: Move from DREAM to DO — *How to Cultivate a Top-Performing Culture in the Real World*

Have you noticed how many high-performance experts live in an unrealistic world?

There is the ultra-marathoner who has sponsors so she can train four hours a day, rest-and recover, and do it all again tomorrow. Or the CEO who has a dozen direct reports to whom he delegates all the tasks he doesn't want to perform.

How can their strategies connect with leaders who work with regular people that have real jobs, real schedules, and real work demands? While some high-performance theories are impractical or unrealistic, this training focuses on well-researched, pragmatic strategies that will equip Clerks with how to move from DREAM to DO and become Response-ABLE in their attitudes, actions, and achievements even in the midst of challenging circumstances and events.

PM Session: Bust Your Signature Moves — *Understanding Your Greatest Strengths and the Strengths of Those Around You*

The best players on any team have a *signature move*... and they know how to use it! This means when each person on a team understands who they are, how they are wired, and what makes them tick, relationships are more authentic and everyone is more effective.

During this highly-engaging, interactive training experience, you will discover your "signature moves" (personality strengths), your potential "signature bloopers" (personality weaknesses), and the best strategies to "bust your signature move" (play to your strengths and compensate for your weaknesses). You will also learn how to recognize the signature moves of others, which is vital to effective interpersonal relationships.

Most importantly, by the end of this training, all participants will be able to use two simple questions to continually bust their own signature moves and help them connect more authentically and productively with their team members as well as the people they serve.

About KENT JULIAN

Kent Julian is a lot of things... devoted family man, champion swim coach, [CSP professional speaker with the National Speaker Association](#), fish-taco lover, and proud bald guy. Yet, this hasn't always been the case. Kent started out as an at-risk child with severe learning challenges and SAT scores so low that he had to take Development Studies just to get into college—on probation. From these humble beginnings,

Kent went on to lead several large youth organizations in order to help teenagers who struggled just like him. This work eventually led him to become the Executive Director of a national youth association. During this time, because of his work with Millennials and Millennial-focused organizations across the country, Kent completed a dissertation on the challenges and opportunities of leading Millennials. After 20 years in non-profit work, Kent changed directions and launched two successful businesses. Now, with his expertise in creating DREAM-to-DO work and education cultures, he is privileged to speak, write, and consult leaders and teams all over the country on the topics of leadership, organizational culture, the multi-generational workforce, and high-performance environments. You can find his work online in places like Entrepreneur.com, Success.com, and more.

Check out WCIA/CIAW/AWC RMSA for reimbursement/scholarship information and of course WMCA has scholarships for Fall Education Days for registration only.

Hope to see you in Wenatchee! If you have questions contact Alice Attwood, Education Coordinator, clerktreasurer@tonasketwa.gov or call 509-486-2132.