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**February 2023**



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## **President's Corner**

Dear IAMMA Members,

During the ILCMA Winter Conference, we celebrated the IAMMA's 50th Birthday with the Golden Gala. The event included a photo wall with a half-century of IAMMA history. It was amazing to see so many friends, mentors, and truly accomplished individuals all sharing this one formative experience. It put into perspective how much this organization has not only shaped me but the profession.

Like many of you, the relationships I have built through IAMMA have served as the bedrock of my professional life. Whether it be the IAMMA board member I text after a bad board meeting; or the former IAMMA President who manages the town I live; or the former IAMMA member who took a chance to hire a kid fresh out of grad school who was short on experience but high on enthusiasm. This is the special thing about this organization for the past half-century. My experience isn't unique to me. Everyone has had this opportunity to learn and grow through the relationships they built through IAMMA.

This is why we have chosen "Facilitating Your Next Step" as our new mission. All our programs and events going forward will assist our members with experiencing the vast opportunities of a career in public service; all while growing their professional networks and connecting with future mentors. This is why we have been partnering with other professional organizations such as the APWA, the Local Government

Hispanic Network, and IRMA for our upcoming professional development events.

Also, I am excited to announce our annual conference's theme this year will be "What's Next." The conference will be held at NIU Naperville on April 21st. To continue serving our new mission, many of the sessions this year will be co-facilitated by representatives of other associations. I want to ask all of you to help facilitate your next steps by attending our conference. Likewise, for our more seasoned members and corporate friends- this is an amazing opportunity to meet the next generation of local government decision-makers.

Evan C. Michel  
IAMMA President  
Assistant to the Village Manager  
Village of Buffalo Grove

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## 💎IAMMA'S 50th Anniversary Golden Gala!💎





Thank you for celebrating our 50th Anniversary with us! We hope you has much fun as we did!!

# IRMA PRESENTS:

## Is Your Public Works Department Ready for a Surprise IDOL (OSHA) Inspection?

**Presented By Frankie Giannetti,**  
IRMA Loss Control Manager

**Thursday, March 9**

**12 p.m. to 3 p.m.**

**Half Day Brewing**

**200 Village Green, Lincolnshire, IL 60069**

**12 p.m. | Check-In & Appetizers**

**12:30 p.m. | Program Begins**

**2 p.m. | Networking & Brewery Tour**

*This event is organized through the partnership of the Illinois Association of Municipal Management Assistants and the American Public Works Association - Chicago Metro Chapter Lake Branch*

For more information and registration please visit <https://OSHA.eventbrite.com>.

Thursday, March; 12 – 3 pm

Half Day Brewing; 200 Village Green S, Lincolnshire, IL 60069

Sign up here: <https://OSHA.eventbrite.com>



Learn something new, meet other crew, and enjoy a cold brew! IAMMA and APWA Chicago Metro Branch- Lake Chapter welcomes IRMA to share timely insights on how to keep your Village from failing a surprise IDOL (OSHA) inspection.

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**26TH ANNUAL**  
**IAMMA CONFERENCE**  
**APRIL 21, 2023**  
**NIU NAPERVILLE CAMPUS**

*What's Next?*

**Save the Date**



Save the date for the 26th Annual IAMMA Conference on **Friday, April 21st** at NIU Naperville Campus, 1120 E. Diehl Road Naperville, IL 60563.

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## Regional Luncheons



*Pictured above: Far north luncheon in Gurnee.*



### **Journey into the Profession**

The suburb where I went to high school was in a post-WWII planned town, Park Forest. The original story of Park Forest, the community's racial desegregation in the 1950s, and finally its redevelopment and revitalization efforts in the 90s piqued my interest in urban planning and public policy. I majored in urban planning at the University of Illinois and during my first internship, I realized that narrow focus wasn't for me. Thanks to the assistant village manager there, I found my way to NIU's MPA program. The best thing about city management is that among all of the variety of work, I still get to be involved in the types of planning projects that inspired me in the first place, but from a strategic perspective, which is a better fit for me.

### **How did you become involved with IAMMA, and overall what did you get out of your experience with IAMMA?**

When I had my first internship at the City of Naperville while working on my MPA, my supervisor was very supportive of my involvement in IAMMA. I will say not every organization is like that and it's probably worth asking in your interview if the supervisor is involved in professional organizations or would support your membership. For me, IAMMA was my first introduction to networking outside of my organization. The longer I've been at this, the more I've realized the importance of my network.

### **What committees were you involved with in IAMMA?**

None

### **Why is local government a good career path?**

In local government management, we are lucky enough to work on the most

important issues of our time – things like environmental sustainability, economic development and more inclusive communities and workforces. Even if I can't accomplish everything I want to, I'm planting seeds for a more prosperous region for all.

**Fun fact about yourself:**

My husband is from Arkansas and we spend a lot of time there. I've adopted the Razorbacks as my second team behind the Illini.

**If you could give one piece of advice to future local government leaders, what would it be?**

Well, two pieces of advice. 1) Learn to be a good conversationalist. It helps build relationships with co-workers, residents, business owners, other agencies, consultants and just about everyone who can help you when you need it.

2) Don't get discouraged if your career isn't moving as quickly as you thought it would. It took me a long time and a lot of rejection to the job I'm in now. But, all those first and second interviews were great experiences and I don't regret the extra time I had in past positions to learn and build my resume.

**Shows/music/books you're currently watching/listening to/reading:**

I'm reading *Mercury Pictures Presents*, which is good so far. I just finished *The Lincoln Highway*, which I slogged through.

I'm trying to keep my Spanish strong, so I'm watching *Club de Cuervos* and *El Rey* on Netflix.

**Hobbies:**

Hiking and spending time outside. I have a very energetic dog, whose long walks have become my only hobby, it seems. We run out of local paths to walk so I'm also looking for a good, shady trail.



[GovHRUSA](#) is a certified woman-owned business that provides comprehensive executive recruitment, interim staffing, human resources consulting and organizational analysis consulting services for local governments, intergovernmental organizations, school districts as well as other governmental and non-profit entities.



[IRMA](#) offers public entities an opportunity to stabilize costs, reduce risk and better serve their constituencies. As a member-owned, self-governed public risk pool, IRMA exist solely to provide high quality risk management services at substantial savings to municipalities.

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# Save the Date

- **March 9** - IAMMA and APWA Lake Chapter Presents: [Is Your Public Works Department Ready for a Surprise IDOL \(OSHA\) Inspection?](#)
- **March 9** - [IPELRA Public Sector Employment Law Seminar](#)
- **April 21** - IAMMA's Annual Conference



[View Current Job Openings](#)



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**Our website is:**

<https://www.ilcma.org/about-ilcma/affiliate-organizations/iamma-2/>

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