

VMCTA Conference Presenter Bios

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

MARIANNE RENNER

Leadership Coach, Speaker, Trainer



Self-Talk for High Performers

Marianne Renner is a highly sought-after leadership coach and keynote speaker who has helped thousands of leaders remove self-imposed barriers and unleash their greatest potential. She is a TEDx speaker and tree-time author including her newest book, *Self-Talk: 10 Stories You Tell Yourself That Hold You Back...And How to Overcome Them*. Marianne has worked with government, education, and other public service organizations across the country, helping them navigate through change, communicate with influence, and resolve conflict in workplace relationships. Her personal story and professional anecdotes will touch your heart and inspire you to think differently about how you work, live and lead.

JOHN VINCENT

A Revolutionary Press & First Amendment

John Vincent is a retired police officer, poet, letterpress printer, and director of A Revolutionary Press, a 501c3 nonprofit and volunteer run collective of artists in service to the Common Good in New Haven, Vermont. John is also the co-curator of “Finding Hope Within: Healing and Transformation Through the Making of Art Within the Carceral System”, a travelling art exhibition in Vermont for 2023-2026. He presents on the historical and contemporary significance of hand setting type on the printing press in context with the past and future Revolutions in this country.

KEVIN J. SHORTELL

Peet Law Group, owner and a managing director

Land Record Indexing Best Practices

Kevin was born and raised in Belmont, Massachusetts. He is a 1991 graduate of the University of Vermont. He received his Juris Doctor from Boston University School of Law in 1994. While in law school, he also received the American Jurisprudence Award in the study of estate planning. In 1995 Kevin served as law clerk to the Honorable Susan L. Fowler, judge of the Chittenden Probate Court in Burlington, Vermont. From 1995 until 2007, he was associated with Morwood & Morwood, a small general practice law firm in South Burlington, where he practiced in a wide range of areas with a focus on real estate and probate matters. Kevin joined the Law Offices of Fred V. Peet, P.C., in April 2007. He practices in the area of real estate. He lives in South Burlington, Vermont.

WILLIAM E. FLENDER

Peet Law Group, owner

Land Record Indexing Best Practices

Will is originally from Cambridge, Massachusetts, but has lived in Vermont since 2001. He is a 1999 graduate of the University of Maine. He received his Juris Doctor from Vermont Law School in 2007. While in law school, Will interned for the Vermont Legislature's Office of Legislative Counsel, the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, and the Burlington City Attorney's Office. Prior to law school, Will worked for the Vermont Land Trust for several years. After graduating from law school, Will worked for three years at a law firm in Burlington, where he primarily focused on real estate and local zoning matters. Before joining the Law Offices of Fred V. Peet, P.C., Will served as Executive Director of the Mad River Path Association in Waitsfield, Vermont, where he worked with landowners and others to create public recreation trails. Will joined the Law Offices of Fred V. Peet, P.C. in March 2016. He lives with his wife, Stacey, and two children in Burlington, Vermont.

CYNTHIA STODDARD

Director of Support & Training, NEMRC

Electronic Payment Reconciliation Best Practices

Cynthia Stoddard is the Director of Support and Training at New England Municipal Resource Center (NEMRC). She has twenty+ years of experience working at different levels of Municipal Government. Her service began in 1995, when she was elected for the position of Town Treasurer in the Town of Westminster, Vermont. She joined the NEMRC staff in 2000, where her role was to assist various municipality staff in using the NEMRC software as well as on-site consulting, concentrating on all aspects of municipal finance. In 2012, she was hired for the position of Town Manager/Finance Director for the Town of Putney, Vermont. Cynthia rejoined the NEMRC staff in her current role as Director of Support and Training.

SARAH BUXTON

TGS Law Offices

Sarah Buxton is a Vermont municipal attorney with extensive experience advising towns and local boards on governance, policy, and public administration. She is recognized for her practical, solutions-focused approach and her deep understanding of how Vermont's statutes shape local decision-making. In her legal practice, Sarah works closely with municipalities and other statewide public entities on issues such as open meeting law, public records, ethics, employment compliance, and land use. She is valued for translating complex legal standards into clear, actionable guidance that helps officials make confident, legally sound decisions. Beyond her legal work, Sarah serves on the Mendon Selectboard and the Mendon Planning Commission. These roles give her direct insight into the challenges and opportunities faced by Vermont's small towns and the importance of transparent, equitable, governance that strengthens community trust.

LISA TRUCHON

Contract Assessor, NEMRC

Working with Listers for a Smoother Tax Process

Lisa Truchon is a Vermont Master Property Assessor. She served as Town Treasurer in Lincoln for 10 years and as an elected Lister in Lincoln for 20 years. She has been a Contract Assessor with NEMRC for 14 years where she serves as the Assessor in multiple Vermont towns and a Reappraisal Project Supervisor.

VMCTA Conference Presenter Bios

Thursday, September 10, 2026



TRACY BORST

Town Clerk, MMC, Town of Thetford

Beyond the Job Description: Growing Together as Municipal Clerks & Treasurers

Tracy Borst, MMC, has served as the Town Clerk for the Town of Thetford, Vermont, since 2003 and as Town Treasurer since 2018. A graduate of the New England Municipal Clerks Institute (NEMCI) Class of 2008, Tracy earned her Master Municipal Clerk (MMC) designation through the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC), VMCTA certification levels CVC Summa Cum Laude and CVT Advanced Level. She holds an Associate Degree in Business Management from Champlain College.

Tracy has been a member of the NEMCI&A faculty since 2023 and is a former Chair of the NEMCI Board of Directors. She was recognized by IIMC as Institute Director of the Year and currently serves as Vice Chair of Education and Professional Development for IIMC. She also serves as Second Vice President of the New England Association of City and Town Clerks (NEACTC), is a member of the Executive Board of the New England Election Officials Association (NEEOA) and is a member of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission's Local Leadership Council. Tracy is also a Past President of the Vermont Municipal Town Clerks' and Treasurers' Association.

GEORGETTE WOLF-LUDWIG

Town Clerk, CVC Summa Cum Laude, MMC, Town of Fairlee

Beyond the Job Description: Growing Together as Municipal Clerks & Treasurers

Georgette Wolf-Ludwig began her career with the Town of Fairlee, Vermont, in 1990 as Assistant Town Clerk and was elected Town Clerk in 1994. Georgette served on the VMCTA Executive Board from 2007- 2023 and received the Vermont Municipal Clerks' and Treasurers' Association's (VMCTA) highest designation of Certified Vermont Clerk Summa Cum Laude on September 12, 2020. She achieved her Master Municipal Clerk designation from the International Institute Municipal Clerk Association (IIMC) in December of 2021. Georgette was awarded Vermont Town Clerk of the Year at the 2024 VMCTA Conference. She currently serves on the VMCTA Curriculum and Awards Committee, the VMCTA Nominations Committee, and the New England Municipal Clerks' Institute & Academy Board of Directors.

OMER TRAJMAN

Founder of Aptivyr and AskFora

Practical AI for a Modern Municipality

Omer Trajman is a Norwich, Vermont, based technology executive, serial entrepreneur, and the founder of Aptivyr and AskFora. With a career spanning from hands-on software development to strategic leadership, Omer previously founded Rocana, which was acquired by Splunk in 2017. Today his work focuses heavily on the practical applications of Agentic AI. Omer is deeply committed to advancing digital literacy for rural communities and municipal governments, helping local officials translate cutting-edge technology into everyday, time-saving tools for their offices.

ROSIE LAQUERRE

Town Clerk, CVC, Town of Montpelier

Clerk Round Table

Rosie Laquerre, CVC, has been the appointed clerk for the Town of East Montpelier for almost 9 years and has also served as a school district clerk. She earned her CVC in the summer of 2025 and completed her first year at NEMCI. She lives in Barre City with her son, bonus son and cat, Samwise. Rosie is a voracious reader and enjoys quilting.

FORREST HOLZAPFEL

Town Clerk, Town of Marlboro

Clerk Round Table

Forrest Holzapfel was born in Newfane and raised in Marlboro. Having moved back to his hometown after getting a degree in photography from Bard College, in 1999 he photographed 200 families in front of their homes for the Marlboro Historical Society. In 2002 he was elected as a Lister, a position he still holds. He was Assistant Town Clerk for about 5 years before being elected as Town Clerk in 2013. He has two children in their 20s and lives with his wife Jessica, two dogs, two cats, and parakeets in a house next door to his childhood home and his parents.

DEB TANGUAY

Town Clerk, MMC, CVC, Town of Coventry

Clerk Round Table Discussion

JENNY WILLINGHAM

Town Clerk, Town of Winooski

Clerk Round Table Discussion

Sue Gage

Town Clerk & Treasurer, Town of Brandon

Treasurer Round Table Discussion

Sue Gage holds a BS in Accounting, and started a career in public accounting. Moved out of public accounting and worked for several small business as CFO and bookkeeper. Began working for the Vermont Dept of Taxes in 2010 as a field auditor and then ran for Clerk/Treasurer in 2014 and have been serving in this role ever since.

ROBERT CHAMPAGNE-WILLIS

Treasurer, CVT, Advanced Level 1, Town of Maidstone

Treasurer Round Table Discussion

Bob Champagne-Willis is the treasurer for the Town of Maidstone, serving in this role since 2019. He is also the delinquent tax collector and lister for his town. He serves on the e-board for the VMCTA as Auditor as well as a member on the Certification and Curriculum committees. Additionally, he is the treasurer for one public foundation and four public trusts. He has lived in Maidstone with his husband, Andy Champagne-Willis, since 2017.

HEATHER ROBERTS

Treasurer, Town of Hinesburg

Treasurer Round Table Discussion

Heather Roberts is in her second term as the Town Clerk & Treasurer for the Town of Hinesburg, having also served as the Assistant Clerk & Assistant Treasurer from 2020-2023. She is a graduate of Williams College and earned a Master's Degree in Library Science from Simmons College. She worked in corporate libraries at two large financial institutions in New York and Boston from 1994 to 2012. Heather is a Trustee of Carpenter Carse Library, the Peck Estate Trust, and serves on the board of the United Church of Hinesburg. She and her husband, Keith, have three children, 2 labrador retrievers and are currently hosting an exchange student from Sweden.

MONIKA LEGAYADA

Treasurer, Town of Killington

Treasurer Round Table Discussion

WILL EBERLE

Mission Driver Consulting

Working Through Differences to Build Stronger Communities Together

Will Eberle offers keynotes, custom trainings, strategic planning, and organizational development services for individuals and organizations across the nation through the consultancy he founded in 2020: Mission Driver Consulting. Prior to that, he served as the Executive Director of “Recovery Vermont” (the Vermont Association for Mental Health and Addiction Recovery), as a Field Director at the Vermont Agency of Human Services and the Executive Director of Another Way, a mental health drop-in center. He lives in Vermont, where he enjoys mountain and gravel biking, trail running, knitting, fishing, and canoe camping when he isn't spending time with his children or trying to figure out how to make the perfect pizza crust from scratch.