



Inside ICRM

Institute of Certified Records Managers

www.ICRM.org

Greetings,

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Letter from the Editor

February 2024

Pulling together a newsletter can be tough as one has to find stories that will entertain and inform the readership. But the hardest issues to put together are those that involve that passing of someone. In December I learned that a long-time friend and professional colleague Tad Howington FAI CRM had passed away. I learned of his passing through Facebook. I have known Tad for over 25 years. We had one thing in common and that was we shared the same birthdate – January 8th – along with Elvis. It was always fun to post an Elvis image on his FB timeline every year. Sadly, it was not to be this year.

This issue includes an obituary of Tad written by a long-time friend and colleague Judy Sitton who worked with Tad at Kinder-Morgan in Houston. Judy has also provided us with a personal reminiscence of Tad. Margaret Hermesmeier Chair of the ARMA International board has also provided a piece.

Tad retired to North Carolina where he lived in his parents' house. Tad was active as a historical interpreter and played various roles in local theater. He enjoyed cooking and shared his grandmother's tea cake recipe with many of us. We are sharing that same recipe here. One friend described Tad as "erudite, witty, and quite articulate. ... a somewhat eccentric Southern gentleman." I think that fits him to a T.

Starting this year we will feature in each issue an article from one of the ICRM's Regents. This issue Melissa Dederer, President of the ICRM is supplying us with the article.

In the news we have stories about an archives flood, a new state archives, the movie "Killers of the Flower Moon", digitizing permanent records and a court case involving Ancestry.com

Finally do you work in local government? If so, have you considered having your city council, school board, county administrators or whomever is the governing body issue a proclamation for Records and Information Month? If you need a start I'm sharing the one issued by the [City of Dallas](#) last year.

As always if you have a story idea or wish to share an achievement with your fellow CRMs, CRAs and candidates please send it to me at pakurilecz@gmail.com

I am your obedient and faithful servant
Peter Kurilecz CRM CA IGP FAI

News and Events

Inaugural ICRM Virtual Mixer to Leap into RIM Month

The Virtual Mixer will be on Thursday, February 29 at 2:00pm ET. [Register](#)

Key Terms - New!

Studying for the exams? Check out our brand new list of [Key Terms](#) pulled right from our live test bank!

Careers

[Visit our website](#) for career postings or to post a career opportunity for free!

Preapproved Events

Does your organization have an event over 2 hours you would like preapproved for credit? [Learn how you can get your event preapproved!](#)

Exam Prep Workshops

Need help preparing for the exams? Check out our [Winter 2024 Virtual Exam Prep Workshop Schedule](#)

Important Reminders

Have you moved or changed jobs recently? Make sure your contact information is up to date!

The dues deadline was January 31. Don't forget to make your dues payment!

Have you entered any CMPs lately? Submit your CMP Request within one year of the event.

ICRM Partners



ICRM Quick Poll

December Quick Poll Results

In December we asked you what kind of virtual events would you like to see to engage ICRM candidates and members. Thank you to all who responded. Here are some of your responses:

- Update on partnership programs and benefits
- How will Records Management be affected by Artificial Intelligence?
- Have CRMs reflect on the value of the certification in their own career - why did they qualify as a CRM, what happened once they did and what type of projects did they complete during their career as a CRM?
- The value of the icrm credential(s)
- Birds of a Feather groups for records staff with similar work environments, or with similar issues they are trying to work through.
- Educational - specifically surrounding Ethics.
- The Benefits of Record Management in every day practical practices in the workplace. Private sector, Government and Municipal.
- Pretty much anything related to Microsoft 365! :)
- What are retention and disposition concerns related to AI-generated information within an organization, e.g., retention period for AI prompts and responses?

February Quick Poll -

April is Records and Information Management month. What do you have planned for your organization? Results will be reported in the April issue. Click [here](#) to complete the poll.

From the Leadership: President's Letter from Melissa G Dederer, CRM

Fellow ICRM Members, Candidates, and Prospects,

I am honored to be President of the ICRM and look forward to leading us into the new year. I am thrilled to be working with the volunteers who make up your Board of Regents and Committees.. They are all working hard to make sure the new year brings you additional opportunities to learn, network, and earn those valuable CMPs.

I also want to acknowledge and express my appreciation for those who just came off the Board at the end of 2023. Andrew Ysasi completed his term as Chair, Jeremy Bolton as Regent, Exam Administration and Member Relations, and Brian Starck as Regent, Legislation and Appeals. We thank them for their volunteer services.

And now we are happy to welcome our new Board members. Tim O'Toole was elected as President-Elect/Treasurer, Todd D. Kleine as Regent, Exam Administration and Member Relations, and Brent Gatewood as Regent, Legislation and Appeals.

Read the full article [here](#).

Remembering Tad Howington

TAD HOWINGTON

Archivist/Historical Interpreter/Records Manager/Actor
January 8, 1957 – December 21, 2023

Tad Howington passed away unexpectedly in Plymouth, North Carolina on December 21st following a brief battle with respiratory illness. He will be remembered for his career-long dedication to the records management profession and for his service and leadership at local, regional, and international levels of ARMA International. He was a Certified Records Manager. Tad was also an accomplished actor, a talent he used most recently as an historical interpreter at Somerset Place State Historic site and

for bringing history to life as curator of the Roanoke River Lighthouse and Maritime Museum.

During his 30 plus years as a records manager, Tad managed and directed enterprise-wide records and information governance programs in various organizations representing the energy, utilities, and local government sectors, including work at Kinder Morgan, Copano Energy, CenterPoint Energy, ERCOT, and Lower Colorado River Authority.

Click [here](#) for full remembrance.

Records & Archives In the News

[The US National Archive issued Success Criteria for Digitizing Permanent Records in November.](#)

[Man says storage company destroyed his records](#)

According to the complaint, Atkins entered into a contract with Iron Mountain around May 2014 for the storage of his business records, including client files. However, on or about August 17, 2017, Atkins alleges his business records were destroyed by Iron Mountain without his knowledge or consent. Despite this alleged destruction, Iron Mountain continued to bill Atkins for storage fees through August 11, 2023.

[New State Archives could cost nearly \\$102M. Can Rhode Island afford its rich history?](#)

It's likely only true connoisseurs of revolutionary American history know where to find the first document of colonial independence — on the ground floor of a massive but otherwise unassuming corporate office building on Providence's Broad Street.

The fiery missive stored is the [Act of Renunciation](#), published exactly two months before the Declaration of Independence. Its sentiment is unambiguous, promising to "oppose that Power which is exerted only for our destruction" — that power being King George III.

[Flood in Newport Historical Society's basement damages archives. How they're being saved](#)

Hanging from a clothing line stretched across two sets of ladders, dozens, if not hundreds, of film negatives from The Newport Daily News archives dry out in the lobby of the Newport Historical Society's headquarters on Touro Street, just a portion of the photo archive that was impacted when the organization's basement unexpectedly flooded on Tuesday.

[Meet the archivist whose obsession for detail matches Martin Scorsese's](#)

When researcher and archivist [Marianne Bower](#) took a job organizing photos for [Martin Scorsese's](#) 1999 documentary "My Voyage to Italy," she thought the job might last for a couple of weeks. Twenty-four years later, she's still working for [Scorsese](#) and as executive producer of "[Killers of the Flower Moon](#)" played an integral role in one of the director's greatest films to date. "Marty said to me on day one, 'This is a culture that is not my own,'" Bower told IndieWire. That meant assembling not only thousands of pages of research material and visual references but also finding Osage advisers who could vet every detail in the screenplay and advise the actors on how to move, speak, and dress.

[A Journey Through the Documents that Inspired "Killers of the Flower Moon"](#)

Tucked away in a series of file boxes that reside at the National Archives at Fort Worth are several documents that paint a tragic picture of the reality that shook the Osage Nation in the early 20th century. This carefully curated pile of ledgers, letters, and court documents would become the basis for David Grann's 2017 best-selling book, *Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI*, which legendary filmmaker Martin Scorsese would adapt into a four-hour epic film released in late 2023.

[Inside the Pa. court case pitting a genealogist against Ancestry.com](#)

What began in 2022 as a one-paragraph public records request has

morphed into a full-blown court fight over who owns digital copies of Pennsylvania's historical records.

Are they the property of the commonwealth? Or are the documents — which include birth and death certificates, veterans' burial cards, and slave records — fully controlled by a private company?

Wanted: ICRM Mentors

The ICRM is always looking for new mentors. If you are interested in becoming a mentor or have any questions, please contact us at mentor@icrm.org.

Join Us in Congratulating Our Newest ICRM Members!

New CRAs from December 2023 & January 2024

Amanda Davis, CRA - *Harleysville, PA*

Ashley Hickman, CRA - *Conway, SC*

Jerl Barnett, CRA - *Cypress, TX*

Lauren Ross, CRA - *Napanee, ON*

Mandi Verderame, CRA - *New Orleans, LA*

Megan Moon, CRA - *Honolulu, HI*

Megan Sokolow, CRA - *Geneseo, NY*

Sophia McGuire, CRA - *Gahanna, OH*

New CRMs from December 2023 & January 2024

Carleen Greenidge, CRM - *Pearland, TX*

Donna Tharp, CRM - *Deer Park, TX*

Jillian Zeidner, CRM - *Sacramento, CA*

Kathleen Levas, CRM - *West Palm Beach, FL*

Kimberly Johnson, CRM - *Metairie, LA*

Kimberly Love, CRM - *Granite City, IL*

Marjorie Luce, CRM - *Lisle, IL*

Get Involved!

Do you want to get involved in the ICRM or have an article you would like to contribute? Contact our business office at admin@icrm.org.

...And don't forget to connect with us on [X](#), [Facebook](#), and [LinkedIn](#)!

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