



# Inside ICRM

Institute of Certified Records Managers

[www.ICRM.org](http://www.ICRM.org)

Greetings ICRM Admin,

## Inside the ICRM - August/October

- [Letter From the Editor](#)
- [2026 Board Updates](#)
- [Why and How I Became a CRM and the Effect on my Career](#)
- [A Look at The Past by Someone Who Was There](#)
- [From the Leadership: ICRM Past President Q&A](#)
- [NAGARA's Program Excellence Award](#)
- [U.S. NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION Transcript of National Archives History Office Oral History Interview](#)
- [Wanted: ICRM Mentors](#)
- [New Members](#)
- [Get Involved!](#)

## Letter from the Editor

I've been in the RIM profession since 1980 starting as a photo-archivist at a local public library. During those years I've met and engaged with hundreds of my fellow professionals. Sometimes you lose track of people until one day out of the blue you get a piece of correspondence from one of those individuals. Well, that happened last week when I received an email that began with

*Having nothing much to do today I started randomly hopping around the Interweb. And then I thought, "You're wasting time; why not find someone from the past to communicate with?"*

*Since it's been 28+ years since I retired, and since I've heard nothing from or about the ICRM in that time, I looked it up to see if there were any names I'd recognize. Truthfully, I didn't expect to find any, but there you were editing the ICRM newsletter. You must be a LOT younger than I am... but so is everyone. I'm now 82. As my old friend (now deceased unfortunately) Teri Mark used to say, "Older than dirt!"*

The email was from Ira Penn longtime CRM and editor of ARMA's Records Management Quarterly a most pleasant and unexpected missive. We traded emails over the next couple of days when I finally broached the question "Would you write an article about yourself for Inside ICRM?" The article leads off this issue. Oh! I almost forgot. Ira, although retired is still editing except this time it is

## News and Events

### Dues Reminder

It's that time of year again! If you haven't yet renewed your membership, we encourage you to do so soon.

### 2025 Partner Events

Do you have a RIM, legal, or court of clerk event that ICRM should attend? Contact us at [admin@icrm.org](mailto:admin@icrm.org)

### Need Some ICRM Gear?

[Visit our Cafe Press shop](#) for some limited time 50th anniversary gear.

### Careers

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

### 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!](#)

### Can't Miss Events:

- [2025 e-Records Conference](#)
- [Intro to ICRM Certification \(Free\) - Register](#)
- [Part 6: Business Case - Register](#)

### Important Reminders

[Have you moved or changed jobs recently? Make sure your contact information is up to date!](#)

[Have you entered any CMPs lately? Submit your CMP](#)

his local garden club's newsletter. He has graciously provided a copy for your enjoyment.

I suspect many people are on LinkedIn. I don't visit it as often as I should but several weeks ago, I did and saw that Denise Pickett MBA, IGP, CRM/NS/FED and her team at Dallas County's Parkland Health was awarded the Program Excellence Award that the NAGARA annual conference in Oklahoma City. Denise has kindly supplied us with an outline of what her program has achieved along with a photo.

I suspect that for many of us we came to the RIM profession from a multitude of directions. But could you imagine starting out as a drummer in a rock-n-roll band before becoming a records manager. Michael DeVanna did. Check out his journey from drummer to Records Manager.

For 25+ years I've had numerous Google news alerts running that search for news articles related to our profession. One such news article turned up an interesting oral history. An oral history with Laurence Brewer, the former Chief Records Officer for the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) and now serving as the Director, Office of Records Management Policy within the Justice Management Division of the Department of Justice. He earned the CRM designation in 1998. I hope you find it interesting.

Four years ago, the ICRM Marketing Committee decided that we should revive the ICRM newsletter. Silly me I raised my hand and said, "I'll do it." Now is the time to hand over the reins to someone younger. If you are interested in taking on the role, please submit a 50-word or less essay explaining why.

As always I am your obedient servant

Peter Kurilecz CRM, CA, IGP, FAI  
Editor Inside ICRM

---

## 2026 Board updates

**Elections have concluded and our new officers starting in 2026 are:**

**President-Elect/Treasurer (2026-2028)**

[Todd D. Kleine, CRM MBA](#)

[Request within one year of the event.](#)

## ICRM Partners



## **Regent, Exam Administration and Member Relations (2026-2027)**

[Lisa Morris CRM](#)

## **Regent, Legislation and Appeals (2026-2027)**

[Bryan LeFils CRM](#)

---

### **Why and How I Became a CRM and the Effect on my Career**

I wanted to become a Certified Records Manager (CRM) for twenty years. Shortly after I started my first job in records management, I attended a records management training workshop and heard about the CRM and the ICRM and immediately became intrigued. I didn't need the CRM for any of my past jobs and my managers certainly didn't ask me to pursue the CRM. I really just wanted the CRM for myself. Unfortunately, I did not meet the requisite professional RIM experience requirement for years. It was a long road for me, but I finally worked my way up the proverbial corporate level and met the experience requirement for the CRM exams.

Read full article [here](#).

---

### **A Look at The Past by Someone Who Was There**

By Ira A. Penn

The year was 1964 (some of you may have read about those days in the history books). I had just been graduated from college with a degree in Business Administration and I applied for—and got—a job with the U.S. Patent Office. My title was to be Management Analyst.

Management Analyst may be one of the most nondescript titles in existence. There were Management Analysts doing all sorts of work. I was “put” into records management. Interestingly (and more than a little disconcerting), although I had majored in management in college, I had never heard the term. There would be lots to learn.

Read full article [here](#).

---

### **From the Leadership: ICRM Past President Q&A**

**John O'Brian-**

***What was the driving force behind obtaining your ICRM designation and when did you complete it?***

In a time of British Columbia government downsizing, I was offered opportunity to join a newly created Central Agency, born of the Provincial Archives, with a mandate to establish a government-wide program for managing records. As the only one of five analysts to

bring an unrelated undergraduate degree and without a graduate degree in archival science, I needed to establish credibility and wanted to expand the thinking of colleagues who saw information as primarily a matter of archival preservation. I took a course in records management from another Past President, Pat Acton, and began the journey, achieving my CRM in 1989.

Read full article [here](#).

---

### **NAGARA's Program Excellence Award**

Congratulations goes out to Denis Pickett MBA, IGP, CRM/NS/Fed and her team at Parkland Health in Dallas, Texas for being awarded NAGARA's Program Excellence Award. "This award honors a collaborative team or government program that has developed and implemented a creative product or initiative enhancing government records management and preservation goals."

On July 16, 2025, the Parkland Health RIM Program team was awarded the Program Excellence Award in Oklahoma City by the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators (NAGARA). The Program is managed by Denise Pickett, CRM/NS/FED, IGP, Director, Records and Information Management/Public Information Act Officer.

Read full article [here](#).

---

### **U.S. NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION Transcript of National Archives History Office Oral History Interview**

**Stephanie Reynolds:** Today is Friday, December 20th, 2024, and I'm speaking with Laurence Brewer, who's NARA's [National Archives and Records Administration] former Chief Records Officer for the U.S. Government. My name is Stephanie Reynolds, and I'm based out of our National Archives facility in Denver, Colorado. I'm assisting the agency historian, Jessie Kratz, with this interview, and we are documenting the history of the agency by preserving firsthand accounts of events. Laurence, thank you for participating in the National Archives Oral History Project. To get us started, can you please state your full name and spell it for me, please?

**Laurence Brewer:** Yeah. Thank you, Stephanie. I appreciate the opportunity to have this interview. My name is Laurence Neil Brewer. L-A-U-R-E-N-C-E N-E-I-L B-R-E-W-E-R.  
Read full interview [here](#).

---

### **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](mailto:mentor@icrm.org).

---

**Join Us in Congratulating Our Newest ICRM Members!**

## **New CRAs from June 2025 - October 2025**

James Posey, CRA - West Virginia  
Kathleen Donellan, CRA - Texas  
Kirsten Munson, CRA - Texas  
Renee LaCapria-Harper, CRA - Arkansas  
Clayton McGahee, CRA - District of Columbia  
Laura Froelke, CRA - Oregon  
Jason Kinsey, CRA - Georgia  
Amy Barringer, CRA - South Carolina  
Allison Kobayashi, CRA - British Columbia  
Mallory Covington, CRA - Oklahoma  
Karen Pierce, CRA - Kansas  
Diana Aguirre, CRA - Texas  
Remington Gillis, CRA - Louisiana  
Ofelia Chen, CRA - New York  
Aimee Tapie Syrdal, CRA - Louisiana  
Willow Chadwick, CRA - Ontario  
Michael Holland, CRA - California  
Barbara Ortueta, CRA - Louisiana  
Andrew Young, CRA - Michigan  
Frances Serrano, CRA - Texas  
Olufisayo Babalola, CRA - Alberta  
Christina Sergeant, CRA - Kentucky  
Julie Sacharko, CRA - Texas  
Immaculate Nakiyingi, CRA - Prince Edward Island  
Caleb Sellers, CRA - British Columbia  
Ha Na Jung, CRA - Louisiana  
Monica Sgrignuoli, CRA - Ontario  
Nicole Sheriff, CRA - Alberta  
Kate McKinnon, CRA - Alberta  
Artesia Colleton, CRA - Maryland  
Kelly Murphy, CRA - Texas  
Heather Brunstad, CRA - British Columbia  
Noah Culp, CRA - Ontario  
Kaitlin D'Amico, CRA - Kentucky

## **New CRMs from June 2025 - October 2025**

Renee Tucker, CRM - New Providence  
William McClements, CRM - District of Columbia  
Claire Ridley, CRM - Austin, Texas  
Brittany Barrios, CRM - Portland, Oregon  
Sarah E. Sporko, CRM - Carbondale, Pennsylvania  
Bailey Willeford, CRM - Irving, Texas  
Leon Castaneda Jr, CRM - Marshall, Texas  
Alaena Holland, CRM - Louisville, Kentucky

---

## **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](mailto:admin@icrm.org).

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

---

Institute of Certified Records Managers  
230 Washington Ave Ext., Suite 101  
Albany, NY 12203-3539  
Phone: (518) 694-5362  
Fax: (518) 463-8656  
Email: [admin@icrm.org](mailto:admin@icrm.org)

