



# Northeast News



## Andrea Nilon, IAO President 2007-2008

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There are two individuals who come to mind as I accept this responsibility as NRAAO President for 2007/2008. The first is Sherry Vermilya – who I never had the good fortune to know, but was obviously held in high regard in our profession. The other is Bob Osias, a New York State assessor, mentor, and friend who served as President of this esteemed organization in 1989/90 – the last time New York hosted this conference.

Both have recognitions named in their honor and both of these are proudly displayed on my office wall. Not a day goes by without contemplating all they represent and the obligation I have to uphold their legacy. We build on the experiences and shared knowledge of those who came before. Collaboration and education is key to promote and advance good assessment practices, acquire necessary skill sets, and elevate our profession to earn the public trust. These individuals epitomized the importance of membership and participation in professional organizations such as the NRAAO and the IAAO. From Maine to Maryland, from New Jersey to Newfoundland and beyond, the need to hone our craft to meet the demands of technology and respond to the pressures placed on us to fairly distribute the real property tax are of paramount importance.

Of course, just as essential as the educational component is to enhance our mental skills, so too is the camaraderie and leisure activities that are so crucial to our mental well-being. This is why it is so important to have a well-rounded program in a suitably conducive environment. It is my hope and our obligation as Host Committee next year to provide such an opportunity in Lake Placid next May, although Ray Beattie and the program and activities provided in Newport will certainly be hard acts to follow! Thank you for this opportunity to serve. Let me assure you that you will not be disappointed.

Andrea Nilon, IAO  
NRAAO President

### Board of Directors' Fall Meeting

The NRAAO Board of Directors will meet on **Friday, October 19, 2007** in Sturbridge, Massachusetts.

*Who should attend?* All NRAAO Officers, Past Presidents, NRAAO Representatives, State or Province Presidents, NRAAO Committee Chairs and Members, and IAAO Representatives.

For more information contact Gus Martin at 413-743-9154 or: [elmartinfarm@verizon.net](mailto:elmartinfarm@verizon.net)

## April 29, 2007 BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The NRAAO Board of Directors and Committees met during the Newport, Rhode Island Conference to discuss the Association's business. Official Minutes can be obtained from Secretary Helene Murphy. Here are some highlights from that meeting:

**President's Report** Ray Beattie (RI) welcomed everyone to Newport and gave a brief overview of the conference classes and social events, highlighting the global webcast "Hotel Valuation" on Monday afternoon, an NRAAO first! RI is also hosting the Past President's Dinner on Sunday evening. The last component to a great conference will depend on the weather forecast, which looks favorable.

**Membership Committee** The 2007 NRAAO Membership is comprised of 361 Active Members, 20 Associate Members and 32 Subscribing Members. Chair Dottie Kreitz (NJ) gave her final committee report, since deciding to retire after more than ten years of service. Dottie was appointed as Membership Chair on October 18, 1996 by Past-President Tom Glock. President Beattie accepted Dottie's resignation with regret and made note of her hard work and dedication to the NRAAO over the years in this capacity. Betsy Quist (CT) was appointed to fill the position at the General Membership Meeting on April 30th.

**Education Committee** The Newport Conference is offering a total of forty-two hours of continuing education via concurrent sessions, IAAO Workshops and the webcast seminar. Linda Cwiek (RI) Chairs this Committee.

**Awards Committee** Chair Donna Ralston (CT) reported that there are five nominations for the *Sherry Vermilya Award* this year, which will be given during Monday's General Membership Meeting. The *Kay Pardee* and newly established *Richard L. Prendergast Lifetime Achievement Award* will be presented at the Installation Banquet on Wednesday.

**Scholarship Committee** Viviane Valentine (RI) reported that every 2006 scholarship was accepted and used. The Board approved ten \$250 scholarships for the 2007 drawing.

**ByLaws/Infrastructure** Bernie Haney (NJ) reported that the Committee will recommend a few minor changes to the Guidelines at the Fall Board Meeting.

**Newsletter** Karen Beattie (RI) reported that the Spring 2007 issue of Northeast News commences the electronic newsletter format. She and the Webmaster are working to implement an automated service to notify Members when new issues are posted. Karen also reported that old issues going back to 1999 have been scanned and archived on the NRAAO website.

### **Conference Advisory**

2007 ~ Rhode Island Pres. Beattie reported the following registration numbers for the Newport Conference: 133 full registrants; 15 companion registrants; and 16 vendors.

2008 ~ New York The 2008 conference dates are May 4-8 at the Hilton Lake Placid Resort. Registration will be \$190 and single or double occupancy rooms are \$129. A full-day IAAO workshop is being planned as well as half-day concurrent sessions.

2009 ~ Maryland The 2009 Ocean City conference dates are May 17-21. Room rates are \$79 to \$99 depending on occupancy. Renee Mierczak reported that everything is "going fine".

Future Conferences The following states have committed to hosting upcoming NRAAO Conferences:

2010 ~ Maine

2011 ~ Connecticut

2012 ~ Massachusetts

**New Business** The following NRAAO Officers were elected for the 2007/2008 term: President Andrea Nilon and Vice President Lawrence G. Quinn (NY); Secretary Helene A. Murphy (MA); Treasurer Paul G. Lesperance (ME) and President Elect Leslie Pruitt (MD).

## 2007 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Each year the Board of Directors decides on the number and amount of Scholarships it will award. This year the Board voted to award ten scholarships in order to promote education and learning within the assessment profession. The Scholarships will be awarded in the amount of \$250.

Scholarship Winners have one year to use their scholarship to attend a course or conference. Recipients should contact Scholarship Committee Chair Viviane Valentine for complete scholarship rules and details. Congratulations to the lucky ten! [Viviane@GlocesterRI.org](mailto:Viviane@GlocesterRI.org)

### "The Lucky Ten"

**Robert Dix**, New Hampshire  
**Marion Fantuccio**, Massachusetts  
**John Majeika**, Rhode Island  
**Barbara Perry**, Connecticut  
**Donna Ralston**, Connecticut  
**Molly Reed**, Massachusetts  
**Brian Rosenberger**, New Jersey  
**JoAnn Soules**, New York  
**Amy Timony**, New Jersey  
**Helen Ward**, New Jersey

Alternates: **Tom Holmes**, NH & **Carolyn Nadeau**, CT

## 2007 CATHERINE E. PARDEE MEMORIAL & RICHARD L. PRENDERGAST LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The *Kay Pardee Award* is traditionally given to just one recipient. However, this year the Past Presidents felt there were two members deserving of the honor. 2007 is also significant, being the 40th year since this award was first given in memory of Catherine Pardee.

The 2007 co-recipients are both from the State of Massachusetts and served on the 2006 NRAAO Conference Committee. Both are active in their state assessor's association and are extremely dedicated to promoting education and assessor training.

The Past Presidents recognize and honor **Molly K. Reed** (Wayland, MA) and **Ed Childs** (Sandwich, MA) for their enthusiasm, ceaseless energy, and dedication to the NRAAO.

2007 ushered the third issuance of the *Richard L. Prendergast Lifetime Achievement Award*. The newest and most prestigious of the NRAAO Awards honors a single person for their many career accomplishments. This year's recipient was nominated by every NRAAO Past President except himself. He is a Past President of NRAAO and has a long list of offices held and committees served for the NRAAO, IAAO and State of New Jersey.

**Tom Glock**, Assessor of Cherry Hill Township, New Jersey is the 2007 recipient of the *Richard L. Prendergast Lifetime Achievement Award*. Congratulations on a well deserved achievement!



Above: NRAAO President Ray Beattie, *Kay Pardee Memorial Award* Co-Recipients Molly Reed and Ed Childs, and Awards Committee Chair Donna Ralston.



Above: Dottie Krietz and Tom Glock receive their respective *Sherry Vermilya* and *Richard Prendergast Lifetime Achievement Awards*.

## 2007 SHERRY VERMILYA AWARDS

Like the late *Sherry Vermilya*, the 2007 award recipients have unselfishly given their time and service in support of the assessing profession. Their recent efforts have helped their State Associations and the NRAAO progress to where we are today. This year five jurisdictions selected a member to be recognized for their outstanding service in the assessing profession. They are:

- Connecticut ~ **Betsy Quist**
- Massachusetts ~ **Ed Childs**
- New Hampshire ~ **Thomas Holmes**
- New Jersey ~ **Dorothy Kreitz**
- Rhode Island ~ **Anne Carlson**

Visit [www.nraao.org](http://www.nraao.org) for a history of all three NRAAO Awards and list of past recipients.

### 2008 Conference At A Glance

#### Sunday - 5/4/2008

Registration

Board of Directors' Meeting

*Opening Reception with our Vendors*

#### Monday - 5/5/2008

Awards Breakfast & General Membership Meeting

Vendor Demonstrations

IAAO Representatives Meeting

Educational Sessions

#### Tuesday - 5/6/2008

*NRAAO Annual Golf Tournament*

Educational Sessions

*Adirandack Buffet and Curling at the Olympic Skating Rink*

#### Wednesday - 5/7/2008

Educational Sessions

*President's Cocktail Party*

*Installation Banquet*



Above: Donna Ralston, Anne Carlson, Ed Childs, and Betsy Quist.

## - 2008 LAKE PLACID, NEW YORK CONFERENCE INFORMATION

The NYSAA/NRAAO 2008 Host Committee is being Co-Chaired by Tom and Pat Frey. All conference classes, as well as the Opening Reception, Awards Breakfast & NRAAO General Membership Meeting, Hospitality and Closing Banquet will be held at the **Hilton Lake Placid Resort**. Single or double occupancy rooms start at \$129 per night. Make your reservations early by contacting the Hilton directly at (518) 523-4411 noting the "Association of Assessing Officers" group, or online [www.lphilton.com](http://www.lphilton.com) using the conference code: AAO. **Reserve the dates: May 4 - 8, 2008.**



## NEWPORT REVISITED

I would like to publicly thank the 2007-Rhode Island Host Committee and Officers for their untiring work and attention to the details of the 2007 NRAAO/RIAAO Conference. It was a total team effort to host more than 150 assessors and friends for the week. Thankfully the weather added the finishing touches to a successful conference. I trust all attendees gleaned all they could from the outstanding educational program provided.

I would also like to thank all the speakers and instructors for putting together their best efforts. Special thanks to IAAO President Marion Johnson and Mr. Eddie Tantoco for their contributions to the program.

I am especially looking forward to enjoying the Lake Placid, NY conference in 2008.

Ray Beattie-Jr.  
NRAAO Past President, RI



### NORTHEASTERN REGIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ASSESSING OFFICERS

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Lawrence G. Quinn, Vice President  
Paul G. Lesperance, Treasurer  
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