



Northeast News

NRAAO President
Karen S. Beattie, RES



For many years I was editor of the *"Northeast News"*, putting together articles and news from around the northeast, reporting on happenings at the annual spring conference. Now I find myself writing the welcome letter. As so many of us involved with the NRAAO have learned, it feels great to serve in different capacities, whether it be as a conference attendee, on a board or committee, or as an officer of the association. I am truly honored to be President of the Northeast Regional Association of Assessing Officers this year, getting the word out about our professional organization and putting my touch on the upcoming spring conference.

The Newport 2019 Host Committee has been meeting and working hard to organize a terrific event. We have developed an outstanding selection of courses, which will combine interesting, pertinent topics with personable and fun instructors. It may be tough to pick which session to attend: Unique & Challenging Home Assessments; Green Commercial Building Valuation; Real Estate Title & Maintaining Assessment Records; GIS & Ratio Studies; and many more! We will offer the 7-hour USPAP course on Wednesday, so our golfers that also need the update can do both. The Education Committee is bringing in well-known and respected instructors from around the country to provide top notch education.

Gurney's Newport Resort & Marina has done a great job renovating the hotel out on Goat Island. You won't recognize the new lobby, comfortable bar & lounge, or the new Italian restaurant. Tiered decks step down to the back lawn, where you can enjoy spectacular views of Narragansett Bay and the Newport Bridge. The island now hosts grazing goats and a newly added marina on site.

Rhode Island hospitality has always been top notch, and Newport 2019 will be no different. Come to our conference and enjoy an ice cream social and mingle with assessment professionals in the hospitality room located in the Liberty Suite. If you'd like to add on to your experience, register for the New England Lobster Bake or the Annual Golf Tournament. The closing banquet will feature one of the hottest rhythm & blues horn bands around, paying tribute to the great music legends of the 50's, 60's, and 70's. They will have you dancing all night long.

I am fortunate to have a veteran Host Committee to help organize and plan the 2019 NRAAO conference in Newport, Rhode Island. You are sure to experience terrific educational sessions, with fun social events, in a beautiful setting. We are awaiting your arrival, so mark your calendars for April 28th through May 2nd next year and plan on "Returning to the City by the Sea".

Karen S. Beattie, RES, RICA
NRAAO President 2018/2019

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NRAAO

2018-2019 OFFICERS

Karen Beattie
President– Rhode Island

Charlene Randall
Vice President– Rhode Island

Larry LaBarbera
Treasurer– Connecticut

Bryan Levenson
Secretary- Maryland

Ken Gurge
Legal Counsel

Ginny N. Thompson
Immediate Past President
Massachusetts

Marie-Louise Procacci
President Elect
New Jersey

IAAO President Dorothy Jacks (FL)



Dorothy and her walleye, Wally, gave an entertaining address on Monday morning! She explained that last year the IAAO worked on a compensation survey. In the next 9 years, 48% of assessors are going to retire. Who will take their place? They have created a succession planning tool kit. The IAAO has smaller, more focused committees working on creating courses in modeling, data quality and special analysis education. If interested in any of those topics, there is a volunteer form at IAAO.org

Wally helped Dorothy advertise that the annual IAAO Conference in September is in Minneapolis, MN.

NRAAO Fall Board of Directors Meeting: Monday October 1, 2018
Radisson Hotel Providence Airport 2081 Post Rd Warwick RI

NRAAO 2019 Conference: Newport, Rhode Island

Gurney's Newport Resort
1 Goat Island Newport
Rhode Island 02840

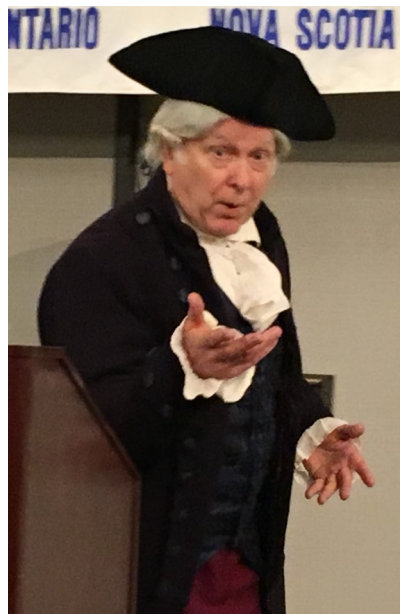
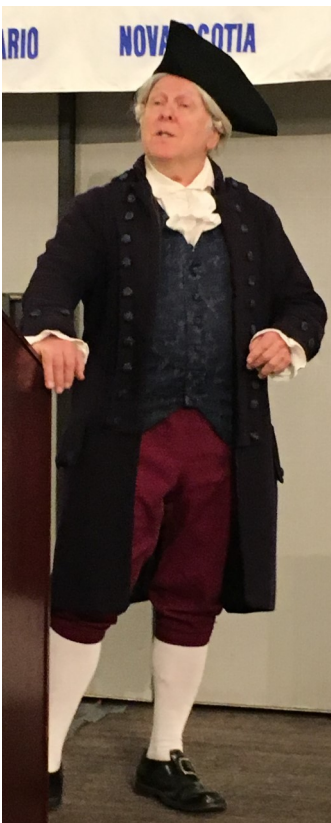


2018 Opening Breakfast– Quincy, MA



Tim Cahill, President of the Quincy Chamber of Commerce spoke to the attendees and introduced Quincy Mayor, Thomas Koch.

Mayor of Quincy, Thomas Koch, gave some history regarding the Marriott site and the recent renovations to Downtown Quincy.



Even John Adams made an appearance at the conference!



It was announced at the Monday morning breakfast that host committee member Christine Purple will be taking over as Executive Director of the MAAO (Massachusetts)

John O'Connor resigned as legal counsel for the NRAAO and Ken Gurge volunteered to step into the role. Ken is pictured here with 2018-2019 NRAAO President Karen Beattie.



In Memoriam



Marion Fantucchio, age 85, a lifelong resident of Quincy, passed away on Friday July 27, 2018 after a brief illness. Marion had a long and distinguished career with the city of Quincy. She joined the staff of the assessor's office following her graduation from Quincy High School and advanced to the positions of Chief Assessor, and Chairperson of the Board of Assessors, which she held from 1991 until her retirement in 2011. Following her retirement, Marion continued her association with the assessor's office until her death. Marion was also very active in related professional organizations. She was a member of the Massachusetts Association of Assessing Officers, serving as Secretary for several years. In addition, she participated in the Northeastern Regional Association of Assessing Officers. She was also generous with her time, participating in charitable events.

2018 Sherry Vermilya Award Recipients

In November 1992 the NRAAO Awards Committee recommended to the Executive Board that there be the “Sherry Vermilya Award”. This award shall be for outstanding service to the assessment profession and in honor and memory of Sherry Vermilya’s support of NRAAO principles and his untiring efforts to assist assessors throughout the entire country and in particular the Northeast.



2018 Connecticut Sherry Vermilya Award Presented to Pamela Deziel

Pamela has been the assessor for the Town of Wolcott since 2005. She has been an active member of the Connecticut Association of Assessors since 2010 and is a Certified Connecticut Municipal Assessor II. She has served on the CAAO nominating committee, AAT committee, education committee, special designations and awards committee and the bylaws committee. She has also served as President, Vice President and Secretary of the New Haven County Assessors Association.

2018 Maine Sherry Vermilya Award Presented to Cathleen Jamison

Cathleen Jamison is the Assessor for the Town of Brunswick, Maine. She is a former president of the local chapter of the IAAO and has been very active on committees and in the recertification of property values in her state.

2018 Maryland Sherry Vermilya Award Presented to Denise Fuhrman

Denise has worked for the State of Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation since 2004 and is currently an Assessor III with the agency. She is currently the President of the Maryland Association of Assessing Officers and has also served as Vice President and board member.

2018 Massachusetts Sherry Vermilya Award Presented to Eric Josephson

Eric began his assessing career in the Town of Chelmsford and has been the assessor for the Town of Weston since 2001. He served on the executive board and as President of the Middlesex County Association of Assessing Officers. He has also served on the education committee, policy review committee, legislative committee, executive board and as 2017/2018 President of the Massachusetts Association of Assessing Officers. Eric also maintains current licenses for Certified Residential Appraisal and Real Estate Broker.



2018 Sherry Vermilya Award Recipients Cont'd

2018 New Hampshire Sherry Vermilya Award Presented to Kris McAllister

Kris works as an assessor/ supervisor for the 'Tri-Towns' of New London, Newbury and Sunapee. She is a Certified New Hampshire Assessor and a Certified New Hampshire Department of Revenue Assessor Supervisor. She has been an active member of the New Hampshire Association of Assessing Officers for many years and often attends legislative hearings.

2018 New Jersey Sherry Vermilya Award Presented to Scott Holzhauer

Scott is currently the assessor in Bergen, Morris and Sussex counties. He began his career by forming an appraisal firm. In 1998, he also became a tax assessor. In 2001, he left the firm and began his career as a full time tax assessor. He currently serves several townships while also volunteering tirelessly for his profession. He has been AMANJ President, two-term Tri-county Vice President, Sussex County Assessor Association President, executive board member and assessor in three counties.

2018 New York Sherry Vermilya Award Presented to Denis Ketchem

Dennis is currently the assessor in three towns: Montgomery, Mount Hope and Forestburgh. He was the President for the New York Assessors Association in 2015/2016 and is currently a trustee with the New York Institute of Assessing Officers. He has also held the position of treasurer for the Orange County Assessors Association for many years.

2018 Rhode Island Sherry Vermilya Award Presented to Christine Brochu

Christine opened her own appraisal business in 2006. In 2011 she became the assessor for the Town of Hopkinton. She has also been the assessor for the Town of West Warwick and is currently the assessor for Jamestown. She served on the 2013 and 2019 NRAAO/ RIAAO conference committees. She has served on the executive board and has been President of the Rhode Island Association of Assessing Officers. While President, she oversaw completion of the Rhode Island Assessors Handbook.



2018 Vermont Sherry Vermilya Award Presented to Michelle Wilson



Michelle currently serves as the Head of the Assessing Department for the Town of Hartford Vermont. She is the Vermont Assessors and Listers Association representative to the IAAO, has been the Operations Chief for State Property Valuation and Review and has operated her own appraisal business. Michelle also developed and implemented the Vermont certification program for Municipal Assessing Officers and designed and organized the current educational course program for Vermont designation.

Catherine “Kay” Pardee Award

Marsha's career started through the business program at Stonington High School. She was one of a select core business student group. Upon graduation the participating students were pretty sure to get employment. Marsha graduated and was asked to report to Town Hall. She started work full-time in the Selectman's Office on July 7, 1970. In early fall of 1970 she went to the Assessor's Office as an Assessor's Clerk. In the Stonington Assessor's Office the clerks were involved "in everything". When Marsha started in the Assessor's Office in 1970, it was unusual for clerical staff to go for courses at the Assessors School at the University of Connecticut. In 1976, Marsha attended her first Assessors School and took the first of three CCMA courses. She passed the CCMA examination in late 1977 and became the youngest person to have earned a CCMA.

1978, she became a Sales Assessment Ratio Field Representative with the Department of Revenue Services of the State of Connecticut. In 1979 Marsha was promoted from the sales ratio program to become the first woman on the Board of Assessment Advisors. At the time Marsha began working for the State of Connecticut she also began to go the Community College of Rhode Island in pursuit of an Associate in Science Degree in Business. So while working full time, she commuted a total of 126 miles to and from work in Hartford, cared for her son who had cystic fibrosis and went to community college at night to pursue a degree. She earned her Associate's Degree in 1987 and her Bachelor's Degree in 1997.

During her time with the State, Marsha began teaching course 1A at the Assessors School at the University of Connecticut. In 2000, Marsha began serving as a Moderator in the workshop program at the Assessors School. In 1996, Marsha returned to the Assessor's Office of the Town of Stonington as the Assessor for the town.

Marsha has been very active in the Connecticut Association of Assessing Officers and the International Association of Assessing Officers. She has served on numerous committees in both groups. Of special note, Marsha was elected to the Executive Board of the International Association of Assessing Officers and served from 2000 to 2002. She served as President of CAAO in 2005. In 1981, she earned the CAAO Essay Award. In 1994, Marsha was given the CAAO Distinguished Service Award. In 1998, she was given the Continuing Service Award. And, in 1999, she was honored as the CAAO Assessor of the Year. In the Town of Stonington, in 2005, Marsha was asked to serve as a member of the Board of Directors for the Stonington Historical Society.

Marsha's efforts and contributions to the assessment community, to State government, and to local government have been wonderful achievements and we all have benefited from Marsha's hard work and dedication to a job well done.



Marsha Standish receives the “Kay Pardee” Award
at the 2018 NRAAO Conference in Quincy, MA

Richard Prendergast Lifetime Achievement Award

Bill began his career as an assistant assessor in Fairfield CT in 1979.

- ◇ 1986 President of Fairfield County Assessors
- ◇ 1989 Began 30 years of teaching assessor certification courses
- ◇ 1992 Became assessor in Milford CT
- ◇ 1997 President of Connecticut Assessors Association
- ◇ 2004 Became assessor in Westport CT
- ◇ 2004 President of NRAAO
- ◇ 2008 Received Sherry Vermilya Award from the NRAAO
- ◇ 2010-2011 NRAAO CT conference committee member
- ◇ 2012 Became assessor in Shelton CT

Bill was editor of the *Assessor-Reporter*; the Connecticut assessor newsletter. He has participated on many panels related to assessment and is a guest speaker for many organizations regarding taxes and assessment. Over the years, Bill has been a member and/or chairman of many CAAO committees.



Bill Gaffney receives the Richard Prendergast Lifetime Achievement Award
at the 2018 NRAAO Conference in Quincy, MA

April 29, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting Highlights

SECRETARY REPORT: Gus was not in attendance. Some amendments were made to the report and it was approved.

PRESIDENT REPORT: Ginny thanked Paul Lesperance for his service as Treasurer and announced Larry LaBarbera will be nominated to replace Paul. She also said Gus's health is not well and Bryan Levenson will be nominated to replace Gus as Secretary.

TREASURER REPORT: Paul submitted his final report as Treasurer. He described the details of the report and some questions from board members were asked and answered.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MEMBERSHIP- Betsy noted the total membership numbers are down about 100 members. Discussion ensued brainstorming ideas on how to increase membership. With permission from the Rhode Island committee, a vote passed for the "2 for 1" membership rate to continue next year.

EDUCATION- Les noted all 2018 conference courses were approved by member states except for NJ for the personal property sessions which don't apply in that state.

BUDGET ADVISORY- Tony reported the transition from Paul to Larry is going smoothly. This summer, Paul will give Larry a check with which to open a new account. Ginny again thanked Paul for his years of service and also stated an audit should be done within the next year.

AWARDS- Kathy reported nine states participated in the Sherry Vermilya Awards. The Pardee and Prendergast awards will be announced at Wednesday's banquet.

SCHOLARSHIP- Viviane said all five alternates were utilizing the scholarships this year. Her written report was submitted. Discussion ensued regarding who should be eligible for scholarship, how many scholarships should be given and if the scholarship should only cover registration, or if it can be used for hotel/ travel expense. A vote passed to keep the same process and to have 10 scholarships for next year.

BYLAWS/INFRASTRUCTURE- No report was given.

NEWSLETTER- Article submissions can be sent to Jessica. If states want to send in their local newsletters, they can send it to Chris to be posted on the website.

WEBSITE- Chris reported the site gets about 1200 hits a month. Please send content to him for posting. Discussion ensued whether to post conference course documents to the site or not. There were arguments for and against.

CONFERENCE ADVISORY- A site visit was done in North Conway, NH. Both hotels visited had pros and cons, but the location has been approved.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Kathy asked for pictures to be sent to her for the Facebook page.

John O'Connor, Legal Counsel, announced that after 14 years he is retiring from the position.

UPCOMING CONFERENCE LOCATIONS:

2019- Rhode Island
2020- New Jersey
2021- New Hampshire
2022- New York

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

President	Karen Beattie	Rhode Island
Vice President	Charlene Randall	Rhode Island
President-Elect	Marie Procacci	New Jersey
Secretary	Bryan Levenson	Maryland
Treasurer	Larry LaBarbera	Connecticut

2018 NRAAO SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

One of the benefits of your NRAAO Membership is eligibility in the Annual Scholarship Drawing. In 2015 the Executive Board made changes to the Scholarship drawing and procedures, in order to benefit all members and also our conference host committee. The following rules were put in place for scholarship drawings:

- All paid members will be eligible for the drawing. Your dues must be paid prior to the Spring Executive Board Meeting to qualify.
- Scholarships will be for the next year's NRAAO Conference, equal to the early registration fee. Winners will be notified by the Scholarship Chair, and must be accepted or refused within 30 days of said notice.
- The Executive Board will vote at the Annual Spring Board Meeting on the number of scholarships to be awarded that particular year. There will be five alternate names drawn in case the winner cannot use the scholarship.
- Scholarship funds will be sent directly to the Host Committee.

The following are the **Winners and Alternates of the 2018 Registration Scholarships**. The names were drawn from all the regular NRAAO members in good standing at the Board of Director's Meeting on April 29, 2018 and announced at the breakfast on April 30, 2018. The awards are to be used for a free registration to the 2019 NRAAO Conference at Gurney's Newport Resort • 1 Goat Island • Newport • Rhode Island from April 28 to May 1, 2019

Winners

- 1- Susan Altieri, Assessor, Granby, CT
- 2- Richard Arpin, Deputy Assessor, Cumberland, RI
- 3- Ellen Brideau, Director of Assessing, Medford, MA
- 4- Eileen R Carlos, Assessor, Bordentown, NJ
- 5- Lori DeSantis, Assessor, Glocester, RI
- 6- Todd Helems, Assessor, Bloomfield, CT
- 7- Donna Mc Cabe, Chief Assessor, Wellesley, MA
- 8- Hannalore Simonds, Chief Assessor, Foxborough, MA
- 9- Brian Smith, Assessor, East Hartford, CT
- 10- Patricia Wright, Deputy Director State of NJ Div of Taxation, East Hampton, NJ

Alternates

- 1- Victoria Rose, Asst. Assessor, Endfield, CT
- 2- Jim Michaud, Assessor, Hudson, NH
- 3- William J Ford, City Assessor, City of Worcester, MA
- 4- Edye Mc Carthy, Assessor, Greenburgh, NY
- 5- Anthony F. Davey , Tax Assessor, East Greenwich, R

