Northeastern Regional Association of Assessing Officers

Fall 2023

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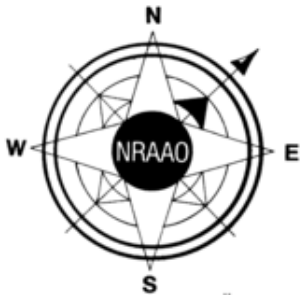



DETAILS INSIDE

2024 Educational Conference

May 19th to 22nd

At Bally's Atlantic City

In New Jersey

RESERVE YOUR HOTEL ROOMS NOW

Only $89 per night

From the NRAAO President

Fall is upon us and our annual October board meeting just occurred.

We have so much going on in the NRAAO, but I have to start by saying what an incredible honor it was being sworn in this past May as the NRAAO President for 2023-2024.

Before I look ahead, I would like to start by taking a brief look back, and thank Bryan Levenson and his team in Maryland one last time for a "Grand" time this past May in Ocean City, Maryland.

Now to the present and looking forward, one of the goals that I had for this year was to take an active approach to help expand our membership and try to welcome back some Canadian provinces and U.S. states that have not been involved in years past.

We are hoping to continue this theme as we keep urging states like Pennsylvania and Maine to work on their membership, and come and join us in Atlantic City in 2024 to see what our association has to offer.

If anyone knows anyone in these states or others who have expressed interest in joining our membership please forward this newsletter on to them.

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I hope they accept this as a personal invitation to join the NRAAO as a member and check out our high-level education, top-notch social events, and most importantly come to our conference next May to meet our greatest asset, our members.

Speaking of Atlantic City, after having our conference in 2020 derailed just weeks before we kicked it off, we are excited for the opportunity to get our membership back to the "Jersey Shore" in 2024! Our conference team has already been working tirelessly to narrow down educational offerings, find the best venues for our social events, and select the "swag" that will help make the '24 NRAAO conference one to remember.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each one of our conference team personally for all that they have done so far, and for their continued hard work as we push through to the May finish line.

On behalf of Liz Simpkins, myself, and the rest of the team, we cannot wait to see you all in May 2024 at the newly renovated Bally's Hotel and Casino.

Rooms are available for under $100 a night! Reserve your rooms today!

I hope everyone enjoys his or her pumpkin lattes and favorite football teams this fall, and the upcoming holiday season. We are looking forward to seeing you all again next spring at the Jersey Shore.

If you have any questions or have interest in getting more active in our association, please do not hesitate to reach out!

Greg Hutchinson

NRAAO President



THE FUTURE AT THE SHORE IN 2024
NRAAO/AMANJ 2024 JOINT CONFERENCE
MAY 19-22, 2024

Dear Colleagues,

As Presidents of the **Northeastern Regional Association of Assessing Officers** and the **Association of Municipal Assessors of New Jersey** we invite you to register for the NRAAO/AMANJ Conference at Bally's in Atlantic City, NJ from **May 19-22, 2024**.

The AMANJ has teamed up with the NRAAO to host this year's conference. We have a packed education roster covering a variety of topics with well-known speakers …… In the tradition of the NRAAO conferences, there are numerous opportunities for networking and social gatherings. There will be something for every conference attendee.

The education portion of the conference contains over 30 credit hours with individuals having the opportunity to achieve over 19 credits throughout the conference. There will be so many options to choose from.

The networking opportunities include: Opening Reception, Lunch with Vendors, Golf Outing, Evening Socials, and the Banquet.

Bally's AC is located on the famous AC boardwalk with gorgeous ocean views and updated rooms and other areas to enjoy. Hotel reservations must be made by April 18, 2024. Go to https://ballysac.book.pegsbe.com/promo?propertyCode=BAC&offerCode=SNN518 and or call 609-340-2000 to book your room now.

The future is at the shore and we look forward to seeing you in May!

Yours Truly,

Gregory Hutchinson

NRAAO President

Kevin M. Esposito

AMANJ President

Northeastern Regional Association of Assessing Officers

Association of Municipal Assessors of New Jersey

HERE COMES NEW JERSEY

SHAPING THE FUTURE @ THE SHORE IN 2024

This will be a joint conference with NRAAO/AMANJ, May 19-22nd at Bally's Hotel & Casino. We are finishing up the education line up with a possible 21 total credits to earn in 3 ½ days. Sunday afternoon will start at 2PM with a 3 hour education session followed by the opening reception with our vendors. Monday offers general membership meetings, education, lunch with the vendors along with an evening social. Tuesday starts off with golf or a full day of education, ending the day with the mid-conference banquet. Yes, most of you are used to the banquet on Wednesday, but you know New Jersey, we like to shake it up a little. Wednesday also offers a full day of education and an evening social to close out the conference.

Golf is set for Tuesday May 20th at McCullough's Emerald Green in Egg Harbor Township.

The room block is open, so please don't wait, book your room today. $89.00 a night + fees & taxes in the newly renovated Bally's Tower.





Liz Simpkins

NRAAO representative for New Jersey Rep for New Jersey

THE FUTURE AT THE SHORE IN 2024
NRAAO/AMANJ 2024 JOINT CONFERENCE
MAY 19-22, 2024

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

The Assessors of New Jersey will be hosting the Northeastern Regional Association of Assessing Officers (NRAAO) conference at Bally's in Atlantic City, May 19-22, 2024.

As part of our conference, we are offering several Sponsor levels. Sponsorship is essential to the conference in order to keep conference registration at a reasonable price, allowing more professionals to attend and to make the week as memorable as possible for our friends from the Northeast region.

As a friend and prior sponsor of NRAAO, AMANJ and the assessing community, we come to you for assistance. Please review the attached pages and select the level of exposure you want for your company. We can assure you that whatever level you choose we will be extremely grateful and diligent in placing your name for all to see.

Event sponsorships are available for the Sunday evening Welcome Reception, Sunday Past Presidents Dinner, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday breakfast and break sessions, Hospitality Room, Monday evening Social Event, Golfer's Luncheon and the Tuesday night Banquet Cocktail Reception, as well as others. These social events are important for the networking of the Assessors and give you the ability to market your products and network with a captive regional audience.

Please review the attached options as soon as possible. As you can see a couple of the categories are already sold.

Thank you in advance for your support of the NRAAO 2024 Conference and the Atlantic City Conference committee looks forward to seeing you at the Bally's.

Very truly yours,

Gregory Hutchinson
Gregory Hutchinson
President

Tom Glock
Tom Glock
Conference Co-Chair

James Mancini
Jim Mancini
Conference Co-Chair

NRAAO/AMANJ 2024 GOLF OUTING



The New Jersey Members of the NRAAO invite you to a relaxing day of golf at McCullough's Emerald Golf Links

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Tuesday, May 21, 2024

TIME> 7:30AM Check-in, 8:30AM Shotgun start

WHERE> 3016 Ocean Heights Ave, Egg Harbor Twp. NJ 08234

FORMAT> 4-Person Scramble

CONTESTS> 4 Closest to the pins, 1st and 2nd place low gross score & Longest Drive!

PRICE> $110 Per Player (includes golf, bagels/donuts, lunch, and refreshments)

REGISTRATION (Golf 2024)

(Primary Contact as Player #1)	Name	Phone #	Email
PLAYER #1			
PLAYER #2			
PLAYER #3			
PLAYER #4			

Amt Enclosed $_____ **Check #_____**

If paying by credit card, service fees apply

Credit Card #_____Exp Date:_____CVW_____
Name as it appears on card: _____Billing zip code_____

Mail Check to:

NRAAO-NJ
Lee Ann Russ
lruss@middletownship.com
33 Mechanic St
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

For registration details or questions contact:
Mike Bernardin @ 856-979-2811 email: mbernardin@moorestown.nj.us
Sean Gaskill @ 609-784-3346 email: sgaskill@gtnj.org

Congratulations to 2023 NRAAO Award Winners

Kay Pardee Award: Mary Huda and Christopher Kelsey

Dick Prendergast Award: Normand Bernaiche

Sherry Vermilya Award:

Connecticut — Joseph Ferraro

Maine — Paul Castonguay

Massachusetts — Ellen Brideau

Maryland — Terina Wertz

New Hampshire — William Irvine

New Jersey — Gregory Hutchinson

Rhode Island — David Thompson

Special President's Award: Leslie Pruitt and Howard Levenson

David Thompson received his Sherry Vermilya Award at a Rhode Island Association of Assessing Officers meeting.

With him is Christine Brochu, the NRAAO representative from Rhode Island.



NRAAO 2023-2024 Officers

President: Gregory Hutchinson, New Jersey

Vice President: Liz Simpkins, New Jersey

President Elect: Patricia Moreau, Rhode Island

Secretary: Bryan Levenson, Maryland

Treasurer: Larry LaBarbera, Connecticut

Immediate Past President: Bryan Levenson, Maryland

Counsel: Kenneth Gurge, Massachusetts

Web Master: Chris Kelsey, Connecticut

IAAO President Speaks at NRAAO Conference



Patrick Alesandrini, 2023 IAAO President, spoke to NRAAO conference attendees about the challenges facing the assessing profession.

In addition to sharing his thoughts on leadership, Alesandrini talked about how diverse our profession is, noting that there are far more smaller assessing communities across the country than there are larger ones.

To join NRAAO, please utilize the on-line membership application at:

http://www.nraao.org/membership-application/

NRAAO Members Receive IAAO Awards at Annual Conference in Salt Lake City



Karen Beattie received the *Stacey Ford Award*.

Named after a former IAAO membership manager who was a booster and supporter of IAAO programs and outreach, this award recognizes the "IAAO Representative of the Year" who has made an outstanding effort to promote IAAO during the award period.

Beattie is Assessor with the Town of Scituate, Rhode Island, has been has been a vital part of the IAAO Representative program.

Stuart Topliff received the *Rosalyn Johnston Award* — presented to a person, regardless of IAAO membership type or status, who has contributed to fundraising and other public relations activities of IAAO over the years. The award recognizes those who have advanced the IAAO mission through the contribution of time, effort, talent, and resources.

Stuart, Assessor for the Town of Rocky Hill, Connecticut, has spent 20 years with IAAO, giving back in countless ways. He is a natural leader in the volunteer program who has spent many years working for the Paul V. Corusy Memorial Library Trust to promote the value of membership in IAAO and the benefits of the IAAO Library to its With his assistance, the library has consistently been able to reach fundraising goals.

He is an active member of the Connecticut Chapter of IAAO and a dedicated IAAO representative.

NRAAO President **Gregory Hutchinson** received the Emerging Professional Award — presented to an IAAO member who has, comparatively early in his or her career, made a significant contribution to IAAO by demonstrating leadership in the organization, participating in various IAAO activities, assisting other members, and working toward the realization of IAAO's mission.

Hutchinson has been a consistent voice for the IAAO in New Jersey. He is a champion for the goals and merits of the IAAO. Since 2014, he's served on the IAAO Nominating Committee, serves on the LaunchPad affinity group, presented at the last four annual conferences, and was elected as a Region 3 representative to the IAAO Board of Directors.



Hutchinson received his award from Patrick Alesandrini, 2023 IAAO President.



The NRAAO Board of Directors met in New London, Connecticut on October 20th to approve the 2023-2024 budget, and keep dues unchanged for this year .

Board members also heard a wrap-up report on the Maryland conference and discussed plans for future annual conferences.

Memories of Maryland





Memories of Maryland



Ellen Brideau, Chief Assessor in Lowell, Massachusetts received her Sherry Vermilya Award from her daughter, Megan Foster, who is the NRAAO Awards Committee chair and Principal Assessor in Groton, MA.



Outgoing NRAAO President Bryan Levenson shared a moment with his father, Howard Levenson, while presenting him with a Special President's Award.



Conference attendees learned how to make corn-based whiskey during the Seacrets Distilling Company tour.





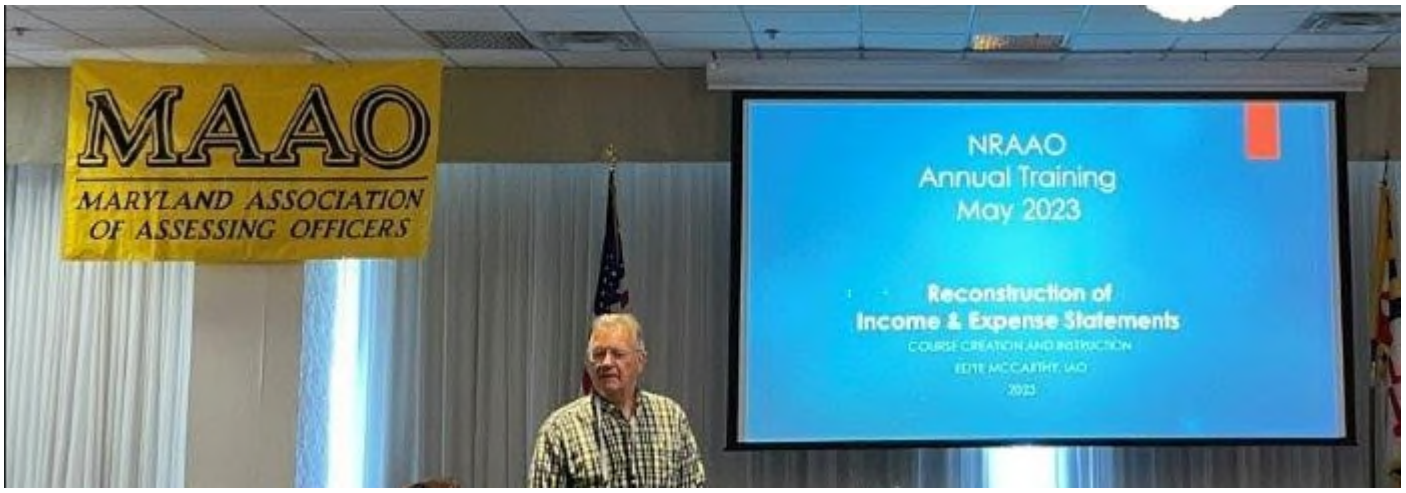




Memories of Maryland













Outgoing NRAAO President Bryan Levenson (left) watched as 2023 IAAO President Patrick Alesandrini swore in Gregory Hutchinson as NRAAO's new President.

Future Annual Conferences

2024 — Atlantic City, New Jersey
2025 — Newport, Rhode Island
2026 — New Hampshire
2027 — Massachusetts
2028 — Connecticut

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www.nraao.org

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We Welcome Contributions from NRAAO Members

SHAPING THE FUTURE @ THE SHORE IN 2024

NRAAO/AMANJ 2024 Joint Conference

May 19-22, 2024

Sunday May 19th through Wednesday May 22, 2024

Bally's Atlantic City Hotel & Casino

Over $100 Million in upgrades

1900 Pacific Ave, Atlantic City, NJ 08401

609-340-2000

Newly renovated Bally's Tower

$89.00 room rates

(plus fees and taxes)

Use the link below to book now

https://ballysac.book.pegsbe.com/promo?propertyCode=BAC&offerCode=SNN518

Be sure to ask for the Northeastern Regional Assn of Assessing Officers rate.





In Memoriam



With great sadness, the Maryland Association of Assessing Officers would like to inform you of the passing of NRAAO Past President James Phelps Soresi. He was a gentleman, mentor, colleague, and friend.

Jim started his career with the State of Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation in 1967. Shortly after, he became a member of the Maryland Association of Assessing Officers and the Northeastern Association of Assessing Officers.

Jim was one of four individuals who served as President to both organizations. He served as President of the MAAO in 1997 and President of the NRAAO in 2001. He received the Sherry Vermilya Award in 2003, the Catherine E. Pardee Memorial Award in 1997, and the Richard L. Prendergast Life-time Achievement Award 2016.

Jim loved both organizations very much, and he continued his involvement even after his retirement. He had such a wonderful time at the last NRAAO conference that he wanted Maryland to host again.

His lasting legacy of kindness, generosity, selflessness and professionalism in the assessment field will always be remembered.

Condolences can be sent to his wife, Darlene Soresi, at 1825 Tucker Road, Fort Washington, MD 20744.