



# Assessor's Voice of Wisconsin



December, 2006



## From the President's Desk:

By: *Jim Siebers*

First of all, I would like to thank the membership of WAAO for the opportunity to serve you during this upcoming year. I am fortunate to follow in the path of many fine people who have made this Association what it is today. I also want to thank the executive board, webmaster, AVOW editor, representatives, committee chairs and committee members, not only for what they have accomplished in the past, but also in advance, for guiding me during this next year.

Have you ever heard the phrase: "I feel as though I have jumped out of the frying pan and into the fire."? Well that is the way I feel right now as your new WAAO President. There seems to be so much happening and all at the same time. Here are just a few of our activities:

The WAAO Executive Board has approved the filing of an *Amicus Brief* in the Walgreens Inc. vs. City of Madison litigation. While WAAO is not directly involved with the litigation, we are asking the court to allow us to submit briefs supporting Madison's position. We believe the arguments advanced by Walgreens, Inc. have significant negative impact on the fair market value of properties leased by Walgreens and all similarly situated leased properties. WAAO is concerned with the significant potential loss of tax base in assessment jurisdictions.

The WAAO Executive Board has also elected to continue with the services of our lobbyist - Jolene Plautz. We believe we have come so far on the Trespass Bill and the 74.37 (Excessive Assessment) Bill, that it would be unwise to stop our efforts now. [It is almost unbelievable that 74.37 has been a topic of discussion for over 10 years.] Jolene also acts as a watchdog for the Legislative Committee of our organization by keeping us informed about any proposals we may not be aware of.

The WAAO Executive Board has determined it is time for a survey of our membership. So included in this issue of the AVOW is the survey. The survey can also be found on our website at <http://www.waao.org/Surveys/2006MembershipSurvey.htm> Please take the time to fill it out (electronically preferred) and return it to Kathy Romanak, President Elect at [romanak@tds.net](mailto:romanak@tds.net). Your input is needed to plan for the future of WAAO.

## Upcoming Classes and Educational Opportunities

### 2006 Assessor Schools

November 3-16, 2006

All meetings are scheduled from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon

<http://www.revenue.wi.gov/training/schoolas.html>

### IAAO Class 102

November 13-17, 2006

Fitchburg WI

Instructor: Michael Ireland, CAE  
Mary Watson, Course Coordinator  
(414) 286-3178

### 2-4 Family Appraisal

December 2, 2006

Sponsor: WCTC

Instructor: To Be Determined  
Contact: Roger Kerkenbush  
(262) 691-5228

### WAAO Quarterly Meeting

December 4, 2006

Madison, WI

10:30 A.M. Business Meeting

11:45 A.M. Luncheon

12:30 Program - Personal Property Updates and FAQs

See articles inside this publication for additional information

New Location see map inside

**2006-2007 Officers**

James Siebers Mequon	President (262) 236-2953
Kathy Romanak Waterford	President-Elect (262) 534-3003
Rocco Vita Pleasant Prairie	Vice-President (262) 694-1400
Joan Spencer Marshfield	Treasurer (715) 384-3856
Pam Hennessey Madison	Secretary (608) 274-6842
Mel Raatz Oconto Falls	Past-President (920) 846-4250

**2006-07 Board of Directors**

Wes Little Beloit	2005-2007 (608) 364-6670
James Young Sun Prairie	2005-2007 (608) 825-1186
William Adams Wisconsin Rapids	2005-2007 (715) 421-8230
William Briggs Appraisal Serv & Data Proc Sys	2006-2008 715) 834-1361
Shannon Krause West Bend	2006-2008 (262) 355-5125
Scott Winter, RES Milwaukee	2006-2008 (414) 286-3137
Les Milde Holmen	2007-2009 (608) 526-9394
Joyce Frey Sauk City	2007-2009 (608) 270-4235
Steven Schwoerer Oshkosh	2007-2009 (920) 236-5074

**IAAO Representatives**

Mary Reavey Milwaukee	(414) 286-3101
Mark Schlafer La Crosse	(608) 789-7525

**NCRAAO Representatives**

Robert Lorier Brookfield	(262) 796-6649
Wesley Little Beloit	(608) 364-6670
James Siebers Mequon	(262) 236-2953

**AVOW Newsletter Editor**

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**Editor's Note:** Welcome Jim Siebers and the new Executive Board. We look forward to your leadership of WAAO through another interesting year. I will continue to try to make the Assessor's Voice Of Wisconsin an effective communication tool for all Wisconsin Assessors and for the WAAO Executive Board.

Welcome !!!  
Editor

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*The Assessor's Voice of Wisconsin is published quarterly by the Wisconsin Association of Assessing Officers, a non-profit Wisconsin association. AVOW serves the information needs of Wisconsin assessors on issues of legislation, education, professional announcements and technical procedures. No part of the newsletter should be construed as an endorsement by the WAAO unless so specified. The AVOW is available with membership to the WAAO. A membership form is available on the last page of this newsletter.*

*The mission of the WAAO is to promote the public good by ensuring equitable assessments through assessor education, professional development, and public awareness.*

(President's Message continued)

Please check out the Executive Board under the new link on our website [www.waao.org/MeetTheBoard.htm](http://www.waao.org/MeetTheBoard.htm). As of now, we have the photographs of the Executive Board and Committee Chairs posted. With the help of Steve Miner, our AVOW editor and webmaster we hope to have the photographs of all committee members in the next several months. Before the end of my term, it is my goal to have a directory of the entire WAAO membership on-line. What a better opportunity to get to know each other!

The Executive Board is here to serve all members needs. Wisconsin is a large and diverse state, from Superior to Pleasant Prairie and from Washington Island to Jamestown Township in Grant County. (I happen to like the name of the southwestern most township in Wisconsin.) Any decisions we make or actions we take are an attempt to make positive change for the assessment profession. Any comments, concerns or suggestions are welcomed. Feel free to contact me anytime.

James R. Siebers

## General WAAO Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 13, 2006

Holiday Inn, Stevens Point, Wisconsin (League of Municipalities Municipal Assessors' Institute)

President Mel Raatz called the WAAO business meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Mel thanked Sherry Lee and the League for allowing us to hold our business meeting during the Institute.

### SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT

#### Secretary

The minutes from the June 2006 Quarterly Meeting were approved as printed in the AVOW.

#### Treasurer

The operating accounts have a balance of \$20,298.37 and the Education Fund has a balance of \$8,205.79, for a total of \$28,504.16. This is \$2,426.28 more than the 2005 Institute balance. The Education Fund's balance is \$701.83 more than the 2005 Institute balance. WAAO funds on hand currently total \$39,929.16.

We have deposited \$11,425 to date for the November 12-16 IAAO income course 102. Those receipts and expenses will be included in the 2007 fiscal year numbers (the fiscal year runs from October 1 through September 30).

The June 5th quarterly meeting, held at the Kalahari in Wis-

consin Dells, had 71 paid receipts, which totaled \$2,485. Meeting expenses were \$2,193.98, for a difference of \$291.02 (an average cost of \$30.90 per paid receipt). The overall meeting attendance for the 2006 fiscal year was down 15% from 2005 (from 327 to 277). Receipts are down 14% and expenses down 15%. We had a net margin of \$125.21 for 2006, versus \$19.36 for 2005. The total cost per paid receipt for the fiscal year was \$27.20.

### Membership Report

We are currently carrying 587 members on the roster until after the Institute. We are still processing dues for 2007 and had 519 memberships as of Monday. Last year we had processed 506 at this time. Joan has sent an e-mail and a hard-copy reminder to members that she has not heard from yet. As of Monday we had 61 regular and 5 retired members that had not renewed for 2007. Joan will be happy to collect any dues during this Institute.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### Auditing Committee

Dave Krolicki reported the committee met yesterday and found the books of the association to be in good order.

#### Awards/Resolutions Committee

Steve Miner reported the committee had a very productive year, and he thanked Mike Higgins, Bob Lorier, Nan Giese, Joan Spencer, Pete Weissenfluh, and Kathee Isleb for their service this year. There is now a nomination form on the website, as well as guidelines for grants. The award recipients for this year will be posted to the website after they are presented tonight at the banquet.

#### Nominating

Mark Schlafer reported the committee met and has the list of new directors and officers which will be taken up under new business this morning.

#### Ad Hoc SLF Liaison Committee

Bob Lorier said they have not met for several months but have a meeting scheduled for next week.

#### Ad Hoc NCRAAO 2008 Host Committee

Steve Miner reminded everyone of the conference June, 2007 in Green Bay, with events at Lambeau field and the Packer Hall of Fame. The committee will kick up their focus soon as the conference approaches.

#### Education & Training

Reed Johnson asked Mary Watson to fill us in on the IAAO

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course 102 in Fitchburg. The class is now full at 40 students, with one of the students attending on a scholarship from WAAO. Mike Ireland will be the instructor.

### **Membership Services**

Nan Giese announced there will be some changes this year. The December meeting will be in Madison, not at the Crowne Plaza, but at the Holiday Hotel and Suites on the west side of Madison. The March location is not locked in yet, there are several hotels vying for our business. At the December meeting we will try holding a silent auction. WAAO's education fund raffle was extended to raffle off the local merchants' and restaurants' gift certificates on Tuesday night so the winners would have a chance to use them while in town. The WAAO hospitality room will be at the Holiday Inn Express, 1<sup>st</sup> floor meeting room, on Thursday after class. Bring your tickets for a free raffle drawing. The committee is looking for additional members to help serve the organization. Nan thanked her committee members for all their hard work this past year.

### **Public Relations**

Scott Winter said there was a lot of positive feedback from the Legislative Day, and would like to do it again this coming Winter.

### **Rural Concerns**

Mel Raatz reported the Towns Assn. conference will be Oct 15-17 in La Crosse. Ortho photos and soil classifications is one of the classes (a repeat of the class here at the Institute), intro to conservation easements, correction of assessments, and identifying drug labs and what to do.

### **AVOW**

Steve Miner reported we continued publishing the AVOW on the website, and it's being e-mailed to those members who have given Joan their e-mail address. If you have any items you'd like to have included, please send them to Steve.

### **Ad Hoc Communications/Technology**

Steve Miner reported the changes this year were to set up a listserv, which now has 77 members from around the state, and adds new members every week. It is accessible from the bottom of the WAAO website. Barry Fieg is responsible for passwords for the members-only section.

### **Real Estate Standards**

Jim Siebers reported for Kathy Romanak that the committee finished recommendations for Ch. 9 WPAM (Wisconsin Property Assessment Manual), and they were approved by the Executive Board and have been submitted to Jennie Miller, DOR, for inclusion in the manual.

### **Personal Property Standards**

Mike Patnode introduced himself. The committee has met a couple times, but accomplishes most of their business via e-mail and telephone. They have not had any really pressing issues, but Mike offers himself as a personal property resource for members. At the next quarterly meeting the committee will be putting on the program, dealing with personal property. If you have any input for that program, please let Mike know. The committee plans to meet today right after this morning's activities.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Joan commented that we have a new redesigned WAAO pin, and each member can obtain one free. There is a \$2 fee for any additional pins.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mel thanked the members and board for all the assistance and everything he has learned over the last year. One other "P" Mel has learned this year was patience. When you are thrust into a new challenge, you must have patience with what is done and also what is not done. Mel thanked the committee chairs for everything they have offered and accomplished. Mel encourages all members to get involved, saying it is well worth the effort.

### **Election of Officers**

- 1) Election of 2006-07 Officers and Executive Board. All nominations were published in the September 2006 issue of AVOW as follows:
  - President—The president-elect automatically becomes president; therefore, Jim Siebers becomes the new president.
  - President-Elect—Kathy Romanak was nominated and approved.
  - Vice President—Rocco Vita was nominated and approved.
  - Secretary—Pam Hennessey was nominated and approved.
  - Treasurer—Joan Spencer was nominated and approved.
  - Executive Board Directors—Joyce Frey, Les Milde, and Steven Schwoerer were nominated and approved.
- 2) The Oath of Office was administered by Wayne Trout, IAAO President.
- 3) Exchange of Presidents—Jim Siebers received the gavel from Mel Raatz. Jim said he looks forward to this week every year, and thanked the membership for the opportunity to serve, and hopes expectations are met or even exceeded. Jim asks for the membership's input this

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(WAAO General Meeting Minutes continued)

coming year and ever needs to be advance our goals. He asked get involved, and issues such as the issue, and perhaps we can band together since there are probably 200 Walgreen's sites in the state. Please introduce yourself to Jim so he can get to know you. Jim is going to have photos of all the officers and directors placed on the website soon. With the ease of digital photography, he would like to have photos of ALL members available. Thanks to Sherry Lee and the League for allowing us to hold our business meeting here this year.



will do what-done to organization's that people there will be Walgreens

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

none

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded, and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

*Respectfully Submitted,*  
Pam Hennessey, Secretary

**See you at the next Quarterly meeting:**

**NEW LOCATION!**

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites  
1109 Forier Dr.  
Madison, Wisconsin 53717



**2007 Wisconsin League of Municipalities Assessor's Conference**

**Appleton Paper Valley Hotel - September 18-21**



Each December the Assessor's Section of the League of Municipalities meets for the purpose of brainstorming various topics that would be beneficial for the following years Institute. We are interested in topics that assessors are currently experiencing along with providing needed education to newcomers of our profession.

I am currently the Chairman for the upcoming 2007 Assessor Institute and would like to ask for suggestions once again for topic matter. What would be most helpful are issues that you are experiencing that you may need more information on or that may help other assessors in the future and possible suggestions for introductory type classes for newly hired assessment staff. Additionally, suggestions relative to possible speakers would be beneficial.

Below I have posted my email address and phone number and ask you to take the time to think of the type of classes that would interest and educate you and other assessors throughout the state. The committee will be meeting for the first time on December 15<sup>th</sup>, please contact me via email or phone no later than Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. Thank you,

Debra Edwards **Phone: 715-345-5250**  
Assessor, Village of Plover **E-mail:**  
[dedwards@village.plover.wi.us](mailto:dedwards@village.plover.wi.us)

**WAAO OPERATING BUDGET - 2007 Fiscal Year**

<b>10/1/06 thru 9/30/07</b>	<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$36,613.03</b>	
<b>Course &amp; Amicus Funds Included</b>	<b>\$17,750</b>	<b>Funds Available</b>	<b>\$18,863.03</b>
<b>2007 REVENUES</b>	<b>Acct #</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Budget</b>
	130	Course Revenue	\$2,000
	140	General Meetings	\$295
	160	Interest	\$170
	176	Dues - Prior Year	\$1,000
Operating Revenue	177	Dues - Fiscal Year	\$17,700
\$22,215	178	Dues - Next Fiscal Year	\$0
	180	Sales	\$50
	185	AVOW Advertising	\$200
	190	Web Site	\$800
<b>2007 EXPENSES</b>	<b>Acct #</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Awards/Grants 201		League Registration Fee	\$250
\$1,350	202	Institute Awards	\$500
	208	NCRAAO Conference Registration	\$600
Expenses	213	Ad Hoc NCRAAO Host	\$2,500
\$6,475	225	Education & Training	\$25
	230	Executive Board	\$2,000
	235	Legislative	\$25
	240	Membership Services	\$50
	250	Personal Property	\$25
	255	Planning & Mngmt	\$25
	261	Exemptions	\$25
	265	Public Relations	\$75
	270	Real Estate Standards	\$100
	275	Rural Concerns	\$25
	276	Secretary Expenses	\$400
	277	Treasurer Expenses	\$1,200
Dues & Fees	420	IAAO Dues	\$180
\$190	425	Incorporation Fee	\$10
Operations	707	Institute Costs	\$600
\$11,625	708	Memorials/Gifts	\$200
	710	Office Expense	\$300
	715	Postage	\$1,100
	719	Membership Lists	\$400
	720	AVOW	\$1,600
	735	Web Site	\$300
	760	Lobbyist	\$6,625
	761	Amicus Brief	\$500
Travel	900	President Travel	\$2,000
\$4,000	901	IAAO Rep - Board Meeting	\$1,000
	925	Institute Speakers	\$700
	930	NCRAAO Rep Board Meeting	\$300
	931	NCRAAO Conference Rep	\$300
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$23,940</b>		
Approved Outlay		Education Fund	\$7,824.53
Wireless Router	\$100.00	Grants/Scholarships	\$400.00
IAAO Education Donation	\$250.00	Speakers	\$1200.00
IAAO Designations	\$400.00		
<b>Approved Purchases</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>Approved Estimated Expenditures</b>	<b>\$2,250.00</b>

**2006-2007 WAAO OFFICERS - REPRESENTATIVES - COMMITTEES****OFFICERS**

Officer	President	James R Siebers	Mequon	(262) 236-2953	jsiebers@ci.mequon.wi.us
Officer	President Elect	Kathy Romanak	Waterford	(262) 534-3003	romanak@tds.net
Officer	Vice-President	Rocco Vita	Pleasant Prairie	(262) 925-6714	rvita@plprairiewi.com
Officer	Secretary	Pamela J Hennessey	Madison	(608) 274-6842	PamHennessey@charter.net
Officer	Treasurer	Joan E Spencer	Marshfield	(715) 384-3856	joan@ci.marshfield.wi.us
Officer	Past President	Melvin G Raatz	Oconto Falls	(920) 846-4250	rrassessing@ez-net.com

**DIRECTORS**

Director	2007	Wesley T Little	Beloit	(608) 364-6670	littlew@ci.beloit.wi.us
Director	2007	James G Young	Sun Prairie	(608) 825-1186	jyoung@cityofsunprairie.com
Director	2007	William Adams	Wis Rapids	(715) 421-2341	theadams@wctc.net
Director	2008	William L Briggs	Eau Claire	(715) 834-1361	asdps@wolfmark.com
Director	2008	Shannon L Krause	West Bend	(262) 335-5126	wbassessor@ci.west-bend.wi.us
Director	2008	Scott Winter, RES	Milwaukee	(414) 286-3137	swinte@milwaukee.gov
Director	2009	Les Milde	Holmen	(608) 526-9394	LesMilde@gmail.com
Director	2009	Joyce Frey	Sauk City	(608) 270-4237	joyce.frey@city.fitchburg.wi.us
Director	2009	Steven F Schwoerer	Oshkosh	(920) 236-5074	sschwoerer@ci.oshkosh.wi.us

**REPRESENTATIVES**

IAAO	Representative	Mary P Reavey	Milwaukee	(414) 286-3101	mreavey@milwaukee.gov
IAAO	Alternate Rep	Mark Schlafer	LaCrosse	(608) 789-7525	schlaferm@cityoflacrosse.org
NCRAAO	Rep 2005-2007	Wesley T Little	Beloit	(608) 364-6670	littlew@ci.beloit.wi.us
NCRAAO	Rep 2004-2006	Robert G Lorier	Brookfield	(262) 796-6649	lorier@ci.brookfield.wi.us
NCRAAO	Rep 2006-2008	James R Siebers	Mequon	(262) 236-2953	jsiebers@ci.mequon.wi.us
AVOW	Editor	Steve Miner	Cudahy	(414) 769-2207	miners@ci.cudahy.wi.us
Web Site	Web Master	Steve Miner	Cudahy	(414) 769-2207	miners@ci.cudahy.wi.us

**COMMITTEES**

<i>Reporting Officer - Pres</i>		<b>James Siebers</b>	<b>Mequon</b>	<b>(262) 236-2953</b>	<b>jsiebers@ci.mequon.wi.us</b>
<b>Auditing</b>	Chairperson	David Krolicki	Greenfield	(414) 329-5341	dave_k@ci.greenfield.wi.us
		Craig Lake CRA	Waukesha	(262) 524-3514	clake@ci.waukesha.wi.us
		Robert J Lenski	Wauwatosa	(414) 479-8971	
	Chairperson	Reed S Johnson	Madison	(608) 266-8192	rjohnso4@dor.state.wi.us
		Steve Miner	Cudahy	(414) 769-2207	miners@ci.cudahy.wi.us
<b>Awards</b>		Michael Higgins	Kenosha	(262) 653-2805	amikeh@kenosha.org
		John E Meyer	Milwaukee	(414) 286-3162	jemeyer@milwaukee.gov
		Robert G Lorier	Brookfield	(262) 796-6649	lorier@ci.brookfield.wi.us
		Nanette S Giese	Wausau	(715) 261-6605	nsgiese@mail.ci.wausau.wi.us
		Joan E Spencer	Marshfield	(715) 384-3856	joan@ci.marshfield.wi.us
		Peter Weissenfluh	Milwaukee	(414) 286-3103	pweiss@milwaukee.gov
<b>Nominating</b>	Chairperson	Kathleen A Isleb	Wauwatosa	(414) 479-8969	kisleb@wauwatosa.net
		Melvin G Raatz	Oconto Falls	(920) 846-4250	rrassessing@ez-net.com
		Mark Schlafer	LaCrosse	(608) 789-7525	schlaferm@cityoflacrosse.org
<b>Planning &amp; Management</b>		Michael Higgins	Kenosha	(262) 653-2805	amikeh@kenosha.org
	Chairperson	James R Siebers	Mequon	(262) 236-2953	jsiebers@ci.mequon.wi.us
	President Elect	Kathy Romanak	Waterford	(262) 534-3003	romanak@tds.net
	Vice-President	Rocco Vita	Pleasant Prairie	(262) 925-6714	rvita@plprairiewi.com
	Treasurer	Joan E Spencer	Marshfield	(715) 384-3856	joan@ci.marshfield.wi.us
	Secretary	Pamela Hennessey	Madison	608-274-6842	PamHennessey@charter.net
	Past President	Melvin G Raatz	Oconto Falls	(920) 846-4250	rrassessing@ez-net.com
	Past President	Michael Higgins	Kenosha	(262) 653-2805	amikeh@kenosha.org
Past President	Nanette S Giese	Wausau	(715) 261-6605	nsgiese@mail.ci.wausau.wi.us	

**2006-2007 WAAO OFFICERS - REPRESENTATIVES - COMMITTEES continued**

Past President	Russ Schwandt	Green Bay	(920) 448-3066	russcc@ci.green-bay.wi.us
	Past President Mary P Reavey	Milwaukee	(414) 286-3101	mreavey@milwaukee.gov
	Past President Robert G Lorier	Brookfield	(262) 796-6649	lorier@ci.brookfield.wi.us
	Past President Mark Schlafer	LaCrosse	(608) 789-7525	schlaferm@cityoflacrosse.org
	Past Director Reed S Johnson	Madison	(608) 266-8192	rjohnso4@dor.state.wi.us
<b>Ad Hoc IAAO</b>	Chairperson Mary P Reavey	Milwaukee	(414) 286-3101	mreavey@milwaukee.gov
	Peter Weissenfluh	Milwaukee	(414) 286-3103	pweiss@milwaukee.gov
<b>Endorsement Committee</b>	Carol N Kuehn	Stevens Point	(715) 346-1553	ckuehn@ci.stevens-point.wi.us
	Chairperson Robert G Lorier	Brookfield	(262) 796-6649	lorier@ci.brookfield.wi.us
<b>Ad Hoc State/Local Finance</b>	Mary P Reavey	Milwaukee	(414) 286-3101	mreavey@milwaukee.gov
	Kathleen A Isleb	Wauwatosa	(414) 479-8969	kisleb@wauwatosa.net
	Hallie Wendorff	Cross Plains	(608) 798-3140	hwendorff@charter.net
	Michael Kurth	Madison	(608) 266-4530	mkurth@ci.madison.wi.us
	Russ Schwandt	Green Bay	(920) 448-3066	russcc@ci.green-bay.wi.us
	Bernie J Laird	Appleton	(920) 749-1995	apraz1@aol.com
<b>Ad Hoc NCRAAO 2008 Host Committee</b>	Chairperson Steve Miner	Cudahy	(414) 769-2207	miners@ci.cudahy.wi.us
	Robert G Lorier	Brookfield	(262) 796-6649	lorier@ci.brookfield.wi.us
	James R Siebers	Mequon	(262) 236-2953	jsiebers@ci.mequon.wi.us
	Kathleen A Isleb	Wauwatosa	(414) 479-8969	kisleb@wauwatosa.net
	Wesley T Little	Beloit	(608) 364-6670	littlew@ci.beloit.wi.us
	Douglas L Milius	Fond du Lac	(920) 929-2972	dmilius@dor.state.wi.us
	Jennifer J Miller	Madison	(608) 266-1332	jmiller5@dor.state.wi.us
	Scott Winter	Milwaukee	(414) 286-3137	swinte@milwaukee.gov
	Mark Schlafer	LaCrosse	(608) 789-7525	schlaferm@cityoflacrosse.org
	Russ Schwandt	Green Bay	(920) 448-3066	russcc@ci.green-bay.wi.us
	Chairperson Eugene R Miller	Evansville	(608) 882-6089	gsmiller2@charter.net
<b>Ad Hoc Property Tax Awareness</b>	Kathleen A Isleb	Wauwatosa	(414) 479-8969	kisleb@wauwatosa.net
	Robert G Lorier	Brookfield	(262) 796-6649	lorier@ci.brookfield.wi.us
	John E Meyer	Milwaukee	(414) 286-3162	jemeyer@milwaukee.gov
	James S Murphy	Milwaukee	(414) 227-4103	jmurphy1@dor.state.wi.us
	Chairperson Mark Schlafer	LaCrosse	(608) 789-7525	schlaferm@cityoflacrosse.org
<b>Ad Hoc Certifications Review</b>	Kathleen A Isleb	Wauwatosa	(414) 479-8969	kisleb@wauwatosa.net
	Michael G Muelver	Rhineland	(715) 369-2952	mikemuelver@frontiernet.net
	Wesley T Little	Beloit	(608) 364-6670	littlew@ci.beloit.wi.us
	Michael Couillard	Madison	(608) 266-8192	mcouilla@dor.state.wi.us
	William Adams	Wis Rapids	(715) 421-8230	wadams@wirapids.org
	John E Meyer	Milwaukee	(414) 286-3162	jemeyer@milwaukee.gov
	Reed S Johnson	Madison	(608) 266-8192	rjohnso4@dor.state.wi.us
	Michael L Grota	Menomonee Falls	(262) 253-1142	mike@wi-assessor.com
	Nanette S Giese	Wausau	(715) 261-6605	nsgiese@mail.ci.wausau.wi.us
<b>Reporting Officer - PE</b>	<b>Kathy Romanak</b>	<b>Waterford</b>	<b>(262) 534-3003</b>	<b>romanak@tds.net</b>
	Chairperson Peter E Krystowiak	Kenosha	(262) 653-2545	apetek@kenosha.org
	Program Chair Joyce Frey	Sauk City	(608) 270-4237	joyce.frey@city.fitchburg.wi.us
	Matthew Tooke	Appleton	(920) 832-6406	matt.tooke@appleton.org
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	Mary J Watson	Milwaukee	(414) 286-3178	mwatso@milwaukee.gov
	Rosanne Reckin	Durand	(715) 672-8652	reckin@nelson-tel.net
	James G Young	Sun Prairie	(608) 825-1186	jyoung@cityofsunprairie.com
	William L Briggs	Eau Claire	(715) 834-1361	asdps@wolfmark.com



**2006-2007 WAAO OFFICERS - REPRESENTATIVES - COMMITTEES continued**

<b>Exemptions Property Tax</b>	Chairperson	Mary P Reavey	Milwaukee	(414) 286-3101	mreavey@milwaukee.gov
		Michael Higgins	Kenosha	(262) 653-2805	mhiggins@co.kenosha.wi.us
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		James S Murphy	Milwaukee	(414) 227-4103	jmurphy1@dor.state.wi.us
		Russ Schwandt	Green Bay	(920) 448-3066	russsc@ci.green-bay.wi.us
		Douglas L Milius	Fond du Lac	(920) 929-2972	dmilius@dor.state.wi.us
		Craig Lake CRA	Waukesha	(262) 524-3514	clake@ci.waukesha.wi.us
		Jenifer K-Wyssling	Waukesha	(414) 524-3512	jwysslin@ci.waukesha.wi.us
		Rhett Tuff	Wauwatosa	(414) 479-8969	rtuff@wauwatosa.net
		Steve Miner	Cudahy	(414) 769-2207	miners@ci.cudahy.wi.us
	Michael Kurth	Madison	(608) 266-4530	mkurth@ci.madison.wi.us	
<b>Legislative</b>	Chairperson	Peter Weissenfluh	Milwaukee	(414) 286-3103	pweiss@milwaukee.gov
		Russ Schwandt	Green Bay	(920) 448-3066	russsc@ci.green-bay.wi.us
	Rural Liaison	Shannon L Krause	West Bend	(262) 335-5126	wbassessor@ci.west-bend.wi.us
		Paul T Koller AAS	New Berlin	(262) 797-2461	pkoller@newberlin.org
		Thomas Kienbaum	Racine	(262) 636-9465	tkienbaum@cityofracine.org
		James R Siebers	Mequon	(262) 236-2953	jsiebers@ci.mequon.wi.us
		Hallie Wendorff	Cross Plains	(608) 798-3140	halliew@chorus.net
		Rocco Vita	Pleasant Prairie	(262) 925-6714	rvita@plprairiewi.com
		Michael Marslender	Stevens Point	(715) 341-7829	marslndr@coredcs.com
	DOR Liaison	Audra Brennan		(608) 266-6466	audra.brennan@dor.state.wi.us
<b>Membership Services</b>	Chairperson	Nanette S Giese	Wausau	(715) 261-6605	nsgiese@mail.ci.wausau.wi.us
		Eric Miller	Greenfield	(414) 329-5343	eric_m@ci.greenfield.wi.us
		Mary E Hlavinka	New Berlin	(262) 797-2465	mhlavinka@newberlin.org
		Richard Rubow	Wausau	(715) 241-6606	r1rubow@mail.ci.wausau.wi.us
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		Denise L Neumann	Brookfield	(262) 787-3528	neumann@ci.brookfield.wi.us
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		Michael Marslender	Stevens Point	(715) 341-7829	marslndr@coredcs.com
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		Louis R Horvath	Milwaukee	(414) 286-3140	lhorva@milwaukee.gov
	Charles R Paskey	Oshkosh	(920) 236-5070	cpaskey@ci.oshkosh.wi.us	
<b>Public Relations</b>	Chairperson	Scott Winter, RES	Milwaukee	(414) 286-3137	swinte@milwaukee.gov
	AVOW Editor	Steve Miner	Cudahy	(414) 769-2207	miners@ci.cudahy.wi.us
		Suzanne Plutschack	Muskego	(414) 422-1813	tsplu@wi.rr.com
		Cathy A Timm	Cedarburg	(262) 375-7608	ctimm@ci.cedarburg.wi.us
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		Carolyn Chabron	Wauwatosa	(414) 479-8969	cchabron@wauwatosa.net
<b>Rural Concerns</b>	Chairperson	Melvin G Raatz	Oconto Falls	(920) 846-4250	rrassessing@ez-net.com
		Hallie Wendorff	Cross Plains	(608) 798-3140	hwendorff@charter.net
		Hugh A Harper	Readstown	(608) 629-5432	hharper4@mwt.net
		Michael L Grota	Menomonee Falls	(262) 253-1142	mike@wi-assessor.com
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		Douglas Kurtzweil	Hayward	(715) 462-9679	
		Michael J Rogers	Prairie du Sac	(608) 643-8057	mrogers69@hotmail.com
		John B Bazile	Tigerton	(715) 754-2030	bazile@frontiernet.net
		Rose Mary Bazile	Tigerton	(715) 754-2030	bazile@frontiernet.net
		Michael Marslender	Stevens Point	(715) 341-7829	marslndr@coredcs.com
		Michael G Muelver	Rhineland	(715) 369-2952	mmuelver@bfm.org

**2006-2007 WAAO OFFICERS - REPRESENTATIVES - COMMITTEES continued****Reporting Officer****- Vice-President****Rocco Vita****Pleasant Prairie (262) 925-6714****rvita@plprairiewi.com**

	Chairperson	Steve Miner	Cudahy	(414) 769-2207	miners@ci.cudahy.wi.us
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<b>Communications</b>	Web Assistant	Barry J Feig	Marshfield	(715) 384-3856	barry@ci.marshfield.wi.us
<b>Technology</b>		Hugh A Harper	Readstown	(608) 629-5432	hharper4@mwt.net
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		Steve Bruflat	Eau Claire	(715) 839-4929	steve.bruflat@ci.eau-claire.wi.us
	Case Law	Robert Horowitz	Madison	(608) 256-0226	rhorowitz@staffordlaw.com
<b>Ad Hoc</b>	Chairperson	Michele Cullen	Pewaukee	(262) 691-0820	cullen@pewaukee.wi.us
<b>Commercial</b>		Peter E Krystowiak	Kenosha	(262) 653-2545	pkrystowiak@co.kenosha.wi.us
<b>Sales</b>		Wesley T Little	Beloit	(608) 364-6670	littlew@ci.beloit.wi.us
		James S Murphy	Milwaukee	(414) 227-4103	jmurphy1@dor.state.wi.us
		Allan Land	West Allis	(414) 302-8234	aland@ci.west-allis.wi.us
<b>Personal</b>	Chairperson	Michael J Patnode	Waukesha	(262) 524-3510	mpatnode@ci.waukesha.wi.us
<b>Property</b>	DOR Liaison	Julie J Matthes	Menomonee Falls	(414) 227-4438	jmatthes@dor.state.wi.us
<b>Standards</b>		Mark Schlafer	LaCrosse	(608) 789-7525	schlaferm@cityoflacrosse.org
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		Dennis P Duszynski	Milwaukee	(414) 286-3161	dduszy@milwaukee.gov
		Carolyn E Chabron	Wauwatosa	(414) 479-8969	cchabron@wauwatosa.net
	Non-Voting	Arlene Klika	Green Bay	(920) 592-3836	klikaa@schneider.com
<b>Real Estate</b>	Chairperson	Kathy Romanak	Waterford	(262) 534-3003	romanak@tds.net
<b>Standards</b>	DOR Liaison	Kathleen A Isleb	Wauwatosa	(414) 479-8969	kisleb@wauwatosa.net
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		Robert G Lorier	Brookfield	(262) 796-6649	lorier@ci.brookfield.wi.us
	DOR Liaison	Douglas L Milius	Fond du Lac	(920) 929-2972	dmilius@dor.state.wi.us
		Steven F Schwoerer	Appleton	(920) 832-5850	Steven.Schwoerer@appleton.org
		Edward Judt	Pleasant Prairie	(262) 925-6710	ejudt@plprairiewi.com
<b>Ad Hoc</b>	Chairperson	Michael Kurth	Madison	(608) 266-4530	mkurth@ci.madison.wi.us
<b>Billboards</b>		Mark Schlafer	LaCrosse	(608) 789-7525	schlaferm@cityoflacrosse.org
		Shannon L Krause	West Bend	(262) 335-5126	wbassessor@ci.west-bend.wi.us
		John E Meyer	Milwaukee	(414) 286-3162	jemeyer@milwaukee.gov

Please view photos of the Officers, Directors and Committee Chairpersons  
at the following link:

<http://www.waao.org/MeetTheBoard.htm>

## 2006 WAAO AWARDS

- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Most Valuable Member:      | Reed Johnson, Department of Revenue   |
| Distinguished Life Member: | Jack Ophoven  |
| Distinguished Life Member: | Ray Fisher  |
| Chairperson Of The Year    | Kathy Romanak, Waterford - Real Estate Standards  |
| Chairperson Of The Year    | Scott Winter, RES, Milwaukee - Public Relations Committee   |
| Presidential Citation      | Joan Spencer, Marshfield - Exemplary Service to WAAO  |
| Presidential Citation      | Wes Little, Beloit - Commercial Sales Information on WAAO web site  |
| Presidential Citation      | Judith Droust, Madison - Initiatives to help promote case law that supports fair & equitable assessment practices |
| Presidential Citation      | Mike Kurth - Madison - Initiatives to help promote case law that supports fair & equitable assessment practices   |

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL !!**

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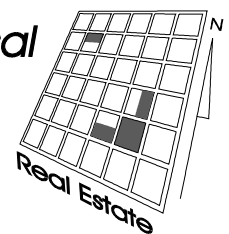
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## IAAO REPORT

**2006 Conference:** The conference is over and I am happy to report that it was a huge success. There were close to 1,000 attendees and spouses registered that enjoyed being in Milwaukee and Wisconsin. WAAO was a big supporter from day one and that was truly appreciated by the local host committee and myself. There was also tremendous support from WAAO members that volunteered to help out during conference events. I have heard nothing but great comments from both IAAO and attendees on how well everything ran. Again, thanks for all who gave their time and energy to this endeavor – you are the reason behind this accomplishment. We did ourselves proud! By the time this report reaches your hands the 2006 Local Host Committee will have disbanded. We are having a wrap-up meeting Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will report back to IAAO any observations that may help their future planning and then we will be finished and can get back to making fair, equitable and uniform assessments.

### **2006-2007 IAAO Agenda:**

**Committees:** The 2006-2007 committees are in the final stages. Most IAAO committees will be meeting the over the weekend of November 10-11. I would encourage any WAAO members that are IAAO members to go to the web site – [iaao.org](http://iaao.org) and look over the committee lists. If you are interested in serving we need to get your name to the President-Elect so that you can be considered for the 2007-2008 year.

**What's New:** Check out the following; all available on-line

- ◆ Strategic Plan Draft – it's only 4 pages and easily readable on-line!
- ◆ Chance to comment – Ad Valorem Mass Appraisal Scope of Work Decisions. The ASB (Appraisal Standards Board) will be reviewing Standard 6 for the 2007-2008 USPAP
- ◆ New and/or updated standards on Tax Policy, Ratio Studies and Mass Appraisal of Real Property

**Upcoming Events:** There are many avenues available to keep abreast of your profession and network with assessors from around the world. Just register for one of IAAO's upcoming seminars:

- ◆ 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Legal Seminar – Nov. 30 – Dec. 1, San Francisco
- ◆ Integrating GIS and CAMA Conference – Mar. 4 – Mar. 7, Las Vegas
- ◆ Councils and Sections – Apr. 25 – Apr. 26, Seattle
- ◆ Preparation and Trial of the Property Tax Assessment Appeal Seminar – May 3 – May 4, Las Vegas
- ◆ 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference – Sept. 9 – Sept. 13, Atlanta

**IAAO Professional Designees in Wisconsin:** At the 2006 Annual Conference we had the chance to honor one of Wisconsin's finest, Bernie Saler, CAE. Over the years many of us have had the good fortune to "learn" this profession from Bernie. We were really proud that his 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of IAAO membership happened this year and we could celebrate this with him at the annual conference. Well, in addition to Bernie it turns out that we have other professional designees in our state. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge them. They are:

Al Andreo, CAE,  
Peter Bronek, RES,  
Paul Klauck, CAE,  
Paul Koller, AAS,  
Greg Landretti, CAE,  
Art Liddicoat, CAE, and  
Scott Winter, RES.

The work these individuals did to get that designation is impressive and I hope you join me in congratulating them. I understand there is movement afoot to get assessors interested in pursuing designations together. If you are interested contact either Steve Miner or me.

**IAAO Endorsements:** No report for this period.

Submitted by: *Mary Reavey*

## **UPDATE FROM THE PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

WAAO's 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Legislative Day is scheduled for March 21, 2007. Many of our members had a positive experience meeting their legislators and conversing about assessment related issues.

We will be meeting at: *Cavanaugh's Esquire Club, 1225 N Sherman Ave., at 11:00 am. A buffet lunch will be served.*

Jolene, WAAO's Lobbyist), will brief us on the bills and how to get around the Capitol. We will then meet with our legislators regarding bills that affect our profession. We can set up teams so you can go together. Car-pooling will also be available from some locations. There will be sign up sheets available at the December Quarterly meeting. An issues summary sheet will be provided for people to reference and then leave with the legislator. Please join us. Here is the issue sheet from last year:

WAAO is a professional association representing 500 plus members statewide.

We are dedicated to professionalism. Advancing education, fairness, and understanding of the entire assessment process.

We have two current legislative goals:

### **1) Improvement to the assessment appeal process (see drafted proposal)**

- Recent case law has encouraged expensive and time-consuming litigation
- Trend of this litigation is allowing "another kick at the cat", with all new trial, instead of being based on a record made at local Board of Review
- Trend for taxpayers to put minimum effort to exhaust local administrative remedies at the Board of Review
- Our proposal encourages more efficient use of local resources and speedier resolutions to avoid unnecessary municipal expense

### **2) Passage of AB 602, exempting the assessor and assessor's staff from liability for trespassing**

- On official business, assessors must be able to inspect and measure property from the exterior without fear of trespass liability
- Under current law county surveyors and their assistants may not be held liable as trespassers, assessors need the same protection

Submitted by Scott Winter RES

## **WISCONSIN'S ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORY INVENTORY (AHI)**

**Wisconsin's Architecture and History Inventory** offers a search engine that provides historical and architectural information on approximately 120,000 properties in Wisconsin. The AHI contains data on buildings, structures and objects that illustrate Wisconsin's unique history. The AHI documents a wide range of historic properties such as the round barns, log houses, metal truss bridges, small town commercial buildings, and Queen Anne houses that create Wisconsin's distinct cultural landscape. It is a permanent record maintained by the Wisconsin Historical Society. From their web page you can search the data base for every county in the state. If you have the chance, view the properties in the communities that you assess. You can get by clicking on the following link:

<http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/ahi/>



## **NCRAAO Report**

The Board of Directors for NCRAAO met on August 26, 2006 at the Sheraton Hotel in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. This is the site for the 2007 NCRAAO conference. Wisconsin was represented by Steve Miner and Wes Little. The meeting began at 8:30 am with a tour of the hotel facilities.

I believe all the directors were pleased with the facility and Sioux Falls. For those who are interested, they can view the Sheraton Hotel by searching on Google for Sheraton Hotel Sioux Falls. They have photos of the facility. The hotel has guaranteed a rate of \$55 per night for the conference. This would be a great opportunity for WAAO members to attend a NCRAAO conference within their budget. The Department of Revenue, and the Department of Regulation & Licensing have approved classes of 1 ½ hour duration at the NCRAAO conference in Grand Forks, and the IAAO conference in Milwaukee so this would appear to be another means of obtaining recertification credits.

After the Call to Order and Approval of Previous Minutes, John Moreland gave the Treasurer's Report. The North Central Association of Assessing Officers is financially sound, but needs more participation by regional assessors in the conference. I have attended ten NCRAAO conference over the past 30 years, and have picked up information that was useful in the performance of my duties as an assessor. As a bonus, I have networked with assessors and department of revenue officials in numerous states, and they have provided me with help with special purpose property valuations.

I received sales information on mobile home parks from Illinois Department of Revenue staff to use as comparables, and defend my assessment at the Board of Review. An assessor in Iowa provided me a sale of a major truck stop on Interstate 80 that I used to defend a similar facility in Beloit. When it was necessary for me to value a privately owned Hydroelectric dam in Beloit, an assessor in Indiana sent me information that was not available in national cost services to compile a cost approach for that facility. I was provided with access to sales information in Iowa, that I had no idea was available, by networking with NCRAAO conference attendees. This year in Grand Forks I was watching a demonstration by one of the vendors, and they told me that the Pictometry images were available in Beloit, because Rock County had contracted to have the entire county flown. The professionalism of the people I have met at these conferences is immeasurable. Every major jurisdiction in Wisconsin should send a least one representative to the NCRAAO conferences.

President John Herz reported that the NCRAAO conference in Grand Forks was a great success netting over \$12,000 after expenses were paid. The conference was well attended in Grand Forks, in part to the enthusiasm and innovations of the entire North Dakota delegation. I was really impressed with the e-mail reminders they sent to keep everyone's interest peaked. Great job!

The Board of Directors voted to reimburse the Past President for their expenses to attend the Director's meeting. The Board gave final approval of the Sioux Falls site for the 2007 conference.

Steve Miner gave a presentation to the Board members on the 2008 NCRAAO conference in Green Bay. There was a lot of interest with the opportunity to visit Lambeau Field and the Packer Hall of Fame. To promote our conference in 2008, we will need a delegation from Wisconsin in South Dakota next year to help with the hospitality room. With the reasonable hotel rates, and some car-pooling, there is no reason we can't get a large contingency of Wisconsin assessors in Sioux Falls.

The 2009 NCRAAO conference will be held in Iowa. The final selection has not been made, but the Iowa delegation said two likely cities were Iowa City and Dubuque. Again, this is a conference that Wisconsin assessors should budget for. Either of these sites is within a short driving distance from most points in our state.

(NCRAAO Report continued)

Steve Miner brought to the attention of the Board the possible need for insurance for Directors and Officers. He also brought up the issue of event cancellation insurance. This seems to be of reasonable concern, given the sudden change in site location that happened in Missouri. The Board voted to obtain more information on the insurance issues before taking any action.

Finally, the NCRAAO Board of Directors discussed budget cutbacks, retirements, turnover and declining vendor support, and how it will affect our organization. NCRAAO affords us as Wisconsin assessors to expand the scope of our knowledge beyond our borders. Many issues that we will face in the future are being dealt with in surrounding states. We can all learn and grow by networking and sharing the knowledge that is available in this organization. The North Central Association of Assessing Officers will be in the future, what we give to the organization now.

Wesley Little,  
City Assessor-Beloit

**Photos from the 2006 League of Municipalities**



Most Valuable Member - Reed Johnson



Judy Droust receives a Presidential Citation



IAAO President Trout prepares to administer the Oath of Office to the newly elected Officers.

**2006 WAAO MEMBERSHIP SURVEY**

Return this page only if completed.

I would like to serve as a WAAO Director

I would like to serve on a WAAO Committee.

**Committee Preference 1:**

**Committee Preference 2:**

**Name:**

**Phone Number:**

**Contact Information:**

Exchange this completed survey for a ticket for a prize drawing. Turn surveys in at the registration desk at quarterly meetings, or mail - fax – or email to:

**Kathy Romanak - WAAO President Elect**

6301 Loland Drive

Waterford, WI 53185

Fax: 262-534-3003

Email: [romanak@tds.net](mailto:romanak@tds.net)





**WAAO MEMBERSHIP SURVEY**

**Page 2**

If you marked “1” or “2” on any questions on the previous page, please explain why. Your comments will assist the Association in better focusing its efforts.

-----Comments:

**Committee Performance**

	<b>1-Poor</b>	<b>2-Fair</b>	<b>3-Neutral</b>	<b>4-Good</b>	<b>5-Very Good</b>	<b>N/A Don't Know</b>
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>N/A</b>
1 Awards Committee _____						
2 Auditing Committee _____						
3 Computer Assisted Assessment Committeee _____						
4 Education & Training Committee _____						
5 Legislative Committee _____						
6 Membership Services Committee _____						
7 Nominating Committee _____						
8 Personal Property Committee _____						
9 Planning & Management Committee _____						
10 Property Tax Exemptions Committee _____						
11 Public Relations Committee _____						
12 Real Estate Standards Committee _____						
13 Rural Concerns Committee _____						

WAAO should provide training opportunities in these categories:

It would be beneficial if WAAO provided these additional services to members.

**2006 ADDENDUM TO QUESTIONS**

**ASSESSMENT SOFTWARE:** List and rate the CAMA software/s you are currently using for assessment purposes.

Software	1 Outdated or Stagnant	2 Meets My Needs	3 Exceeds My Expectations
Support	1 Hard to Contact	2 Without Delays	3 Exceeds My Expectations
Utility	1 Frequent Questions	2 Seldom	3 User Friendly
Municipal Use	1 Not Adaptable	2 Programming Required	3 Adaptable
Flexibility	1 Frequent Tweaking	2 Seldom	3 Flexible Options

**Software Name or Company:** \_\_\_\_\_

Rate Each: \_\_\_\_\_Software \_\_\_\_\_Support \_\_\_\_\_Utility \_\_\_\_\_Municipal Use \_\_\_\_\_Flexibility

**Software Name or Company:** \_\_\_\_\_

Rate Each: \_\_\_\_\_Software \_\_\_\_\_Support \_\_\_\_\_Utility \_\_\_\_\_Municipal Use \_\_\_\_\_Flexibility

**Software Name or Company:** \_\_\_\_\_

Rate Each: \_\_\_\_\_Software \_\_\_\_\_Support \_\_\_\_\_Utility \_\_\_\_\_Municipal Use \_\_\_\_\_Flexibility

**WAAO AWARDS:** Should the policy be changed so that previous most valuable member winners can be reconsidered for the award for atypical or exceptional service to WAAO and Wisconsin Assessors. **Yes No**

**TO EFFECTIVELY WORK WITH LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS AND ASSESSMENT ISSUES**

**WAAO LOBBYIST:** Cost estimate \$750-\$1000 per month when the legislature is in session. WAAO should:  
Continue lobbyist work      Count on members to contact legislators individually.

**AMICUS BRIEFS:** WAAO should coordinate submitting Amicus Briefs on issues that affect values in multiple municipalities. If “yes” complete the next question. **Yes No**

Your opinion regarding WAAO’s financial involvement

WAAO should contract the Attorney and assume the total cost: estimated \$6,000.

WAAO should take the lead, but partner with others on costs:

**Circle WAAO Cost Limit** \$1,000-\$2500      \$2500-\$4000      \$4000-\$5500      WAAO should not get involved financially.

Are you willing to pay additional dues to fund future legal briefs. \_\_\_\_\_Yes      \_\_\_\_\_No

**SPENDING CAPS:**

What has your municipality has been doing to cope with spending CAPS.

Staff Cuts      Service Cuts      Fee Increases      Increase Borrowing  
Public Fire Protection      Now Service Fee      Other – List Below

Do revaluations help with spending CAPS? \_\_\_\_\_Yes      \_\_\_\_\_No      Explain Below.

## Feature Story



*Hunger Task Force volunteers (l to r): Tim Plutschack, Peter Weissenfluh, Mark Parish, Mike Stone, John Meyer, David Jackson, Lauren Marvell, Steve Miner, Gillian Miner, Chris Bennett, Diane Edwards-Ody, Ralph Ody, Denise Jones, Dean Babb, Bill Wadsworth, Jenna Plutschack, Mary Reavey, Sue Plutschack, and Amy Stenglein.*

## IAAO Volunteers Help Hunger Task Force

On Saturday, October 7, the IAAO 72nd International Conference on Assessment Administration got off to a wonderful start when 19 volunteers arrived at the Hunger Task Force facility just west of downtown Milwaukee near Miller Park baseball stadium.

These IAAO volunteers took the opportunity to spend a morning sorting and packing food donations destined for use by needy families, soup kitchens, and food pantries in the Milwaukee area.

In order to prepare for their volunteer effort, the group first underwent a brief orientation session that included assignments to various processing roles including *grabbers*, *runners*, *packers*, and *boxers*. Each person was assigned one of these specialized roles by the trainer, Quinn, as he explained the food sorting process thoroughly.

The *boxers* expanded and taped boxes destined to hold the sorted food items. The boxes were then distributed along an assembly line, soon to be filled by *packers* who sorted food items as they advanced down a long moving track.

Once everyone had taken their assigned positions, the *grabbers* began the process by transferring food donations from very large cardboard storage boxes (on wooden pallets), called *gordians*, onto the track. The *packers* then sorted, boxed and labeled as quickly as the food came down the line. As the contents of each *gordian* were emptied onto the moving track, another box was staged to replace it so the supply of cans, bottles, and dry goods packages was continuous.

At times the *grabbers* reached a frenzied pace, hauling, tossing, and pouring individual items and bags of items onto the conveyor. The teams of *packers* kept the pace, sorting, boxing, and labeling as quickly as the supplies came to them.

Sorting categories included, fruits, vegetables, dairy, peanut butter, protein, breakfast starch, lunch starch, dinner starch, non-food items, and miscellaneous. There were special bins for baby food and institutional items.



*Hunger Task Force volunteers undergo orientation prior to the morning's activity. Site Supervisor Quinn (far right) oversaw the operation and ensured that everyone had a safe and productive work experience.*

At the end of our shift, it was announced that our group had sorted and boxed 23,000 lbs. of food for subsequent distribution. Also, we all were several pounds lighter from our strenuous workout.

Comments from all the participants were extremely positive and the event provided a unique and positive conference experience.

Newly elected board member Dean Babb had this to say about the experience, "Who knew so much hard work could be so much fun. After learning about the Hunger Task Force and all they do for the people of Milwaukee the whole group was energized and it showed. We sorted over 23,000 lbs of food in just a few hours and I am so glad that I was a part of it. I hope this idea catches hold and we are able to do something meaningful like this as a part of every future conference. I know I'll be there if I can."

Conference Co-Chair Mary Reavey said, "I am really proud that we were able to provide a give-back-to-the-community activity as part of the IAAO annual conference in Milwaukee. Not only did sorting 23,000 pounds of food benefit the Hunger Task Force, it also benefitted each and every participant. Working together promoted an atmosphere of camaraderie and teamwork that was rewarding and enjoyable. I hope it becomes a regular IAAO event as it was, in my opinion, one of the highlights of the conference."

Conference Co-Chair Peter Weissenfluh said, "...it was hard, but very meaningful work. I enjoyed the effort, especially working closely with other like-minded people. Everyone had a good time. I would recommend this task as a great team-building exercise. I would like to thank IAAO Execu-

tive Director Lisa Daniels for suggesting the event and Director of Conference and Meetings Miriam Hennosy for making the arrangements. In addition, I would like to challenge the Atlanta Local Host Committee to find some way for IAAO to give back to the community at the 73rd annual conference."

In celebration of this major accomplishment, the group finished with a quick lunch at Friday's Grill in Miller Park. Participants left with a new appreciation for the food they eat every day and they were thankful to have shared in this wonderful experience. ➔



*Hunger Task Force volunteers enjoy a fun lunch at Miller Park after their work is done.*

*The food sorting line is shown above during a lull in the action. The momentum picked up considerably as participants gained experience in their specialized roles.*

# *Welcome new WAAO Members!!!*

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**Town of Menomonie**  
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## WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF ASSESSING OFFICERS 2006-07 CALENDAR

### [www.waao.org](http://www.waao.org)

President	Jim Siebers	Mequon	(262) 236-2953	jsiebers@ci.mequon.wi.us
Pres. Elect	Kathy Romanak	Waterford	(262) 534-3003	romanak@tds.net
Vice President	Rocco Vita	Pleasant Prairie	(262) 694-1400	rvita@plprairie.com
Secretary	Pam Hennessey	Madison	(608) 274-6842	pamhennessey@charter.net
Treasurer	Joan Spencer	Marshfield	(715) 384-3856	joan@ci.marshfield.wi.us
Past President	Melvin G Raatz	Oconto Falls	(920) 846-4250	rassessing@ez-net.com

### 2006

<b>October 23, 2006</b>	<b>Executive Board Meeting</b> October 27 - December AVOW Deadline	<a href="#">Hilton Garden Inn, WI Dells</a>
<b>December 4, 2006</b>	<b>Quarterly Membership Meeting</b>	<a href="#">Holiday Inn &amp; Suites, Madison</a>

### 2007

<b>January 8, 2007</b>	<b>Executive Board Meeting</b> January 13 - March AVOW Deadline	<a href="#">Hilton Garden Inn, WI Dells</a>
<b>March 5-6, 2007</b>	<b>Quarterly Membership Meeting</b>	
<b>March 21, 2007</b>	<b>Assessor's Day At the Capitol</b>	Meet at Cavanaugh's Esquire Club – 1225 W Sherman, Madison at 11:00 (buffet)
<b>April 2, 2007</b>	<b>Executive Board Meeting</b> April 7 - June AVOW Deadline	<a href="#">Hilton Garden Inn, WI Dells</a>
<b>June 4, 2007</b>	<b>Quarterly Membership Meeting</b>	
<b>June 24-27, 2007</b>	NCRAAO Conference	<a href="#">Sheraton, Sioux Falls, SD</a>
<b>July 9, 2007</b>	<b>Executive Board Meeting</b> July 14 - September AVOW Deadline	<a href="#">Hilton Garden Inn, WI Dells</a>
<b>September 9-12, 2007</b>	IAAO Conference	<a href="#">Atlanta, Georgia (Atlanta Marriott Marquis)</a>
<b>September 18-21, 2007</b>	Municipal Assessor's Institute	
<b>September 19, 2007</b>	<b>WAAO Business Meeting</b>	<a href="#">Radisson Paper Valley, Appleton, WI</a>
<b>October 21-24, 2007</b>	WI Towns Assc Convention	Green Bay WI
<b>October 8, 2007</b>	<b>Executive Board Meeting</b> October 27 - December AVOW Deadline	<a href="#">Hilton Garden Inn, WI Dells</a>
<b>December 3, 2007</b>	<b>Quarterly Membership Meeting</b>	

# WAAO Quarterly Meeting

DATE: Monday, December 4, 2006

PLACE: **NEW LOCATION! SEE MAP ON NEXT PAGE!**  
Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites  
1109 Forier Dr.  
Madison, Wisconsin 53717  
608-442-9360

TIME: 10:30 A.M. Business Meeting – AM Break Coffee  
11:45 A.M. Luncheon – Deli Buffet: Ham, Turkey, Roast Beef & Dessert  
12:30 P.M. Program – (Soda for Break)

PRICE: \$30.00 per person (Members)  
\$75.00 per person (Non-Members)  
Both Prices include Lunch

PROGRAM: **“Personal Property Updates and FAQs”**  
Adams billboard case, United Rentals case, Medical equipment exemption,  
Xerox case update, digital convertor issue, Rental watercraft exemption,  
Auditing a business, and open discussion

INSTRUCTORS: Michael Kurth – City of Madison  
John Meyer – City of Milwaukee  
Mark Schlafer – City of La Crosse  
Michael Patnode – City of Waukesha

CREDITS: 3 Hours Law and Management

**WAAOWAAOWAAOWAAOWAAOWAAOWAAOWAAOWAAOWAAOWAAOWAAOWAAO**

If you plan on attending this meeting, please make a reservation by Wednesday, November 29, 2006. Per our contract, we are required to guarantee the number of guests 5 working days in advance with any meal function. Therefore, be sure to reserve your spot at the luncheon by making your reservation today.

Mail, Telephone, Fax or E-mail to:

**Joan Spencer**

Treasurer, W.A.A.O.

P.O. Box 727

Marshfield, WI 54449-0727

Telephone (715) 384-3856

Fax (715) 384-7831

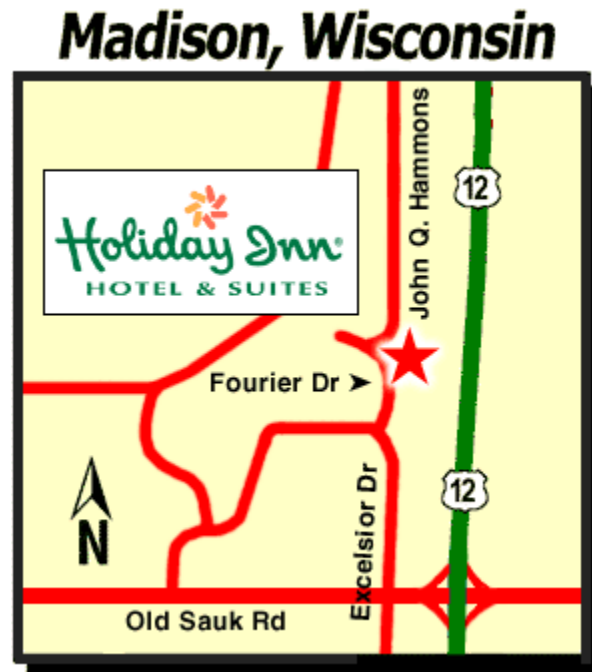
E-mail: joan@ci.marshfield.wi.us

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number in Party: \_\_\_\_\_



## *Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites - Madison Map*



**FROM THE WEST:** From the Wisconsin Dells/Baraboo Area — Follow Highway 12 East into Middleton. Exit Hwy. 12 at Greenway Blvd. Turn left at stop. Turn left onto John Q. Hammons Drive (.5 blocks). Turn left onto Fourier Drive (2.5 blocks). Hotel on immediate left. From La Crosse or Richland Center — Follow Highway 14 East into Middleton. Exit Hwy. 14 at Highway 12 East. Exit Hwy. 12 at Greenway Blvd. (.25 miles). Turn right at stop. Turn left at John Q. Hammons Drive (.5 blocks). Turn left at Fourier Drive (2.5 blocks). Hotel on immediate left. From Interstate 90/94 East — Follow I-90/94 East to Waunakee area. Exit Highway 19 West to Waunakee. Follow Hwy. 19 to Highway 12 East (approx. 10 miles). Turn left on Hwy. 12 East. Follow Hwy. 12 into Middleton (approx. 4 miles). Exit Hwy. 12 at Greenway Blvd. Turn right at stop. Turn left at John Q. Hammons Drive (.5 blocks). Turn left at Fourier Drive (2.5 blocks). Hotel on immediate left.

**FROM THE SOUTH:** From the Chicago/Rockford Area — Follow Interstate 90 West/39 North from Rockford. Exit I-90/39 at Highway 12/18 West. Follow Hwy. 12/18 to split (6 miles); continue on Hwy. 12 West. Exit Hwy. 12 at Greenway Blvd. (4 miles). Turn left at stop. Turn left onto John Q. Hammons Drive (.5 blocks). Turn left onto Fourier Drive (2.5 blocks). Hotel on immediate left.

**FROM THE NORTH:** From Stevens Point or Wausau — Follow Highway 51 South/Interstate 39 South into Madison. Exit Hwy. 51/I-39 at Interstate 90/94 East until split (approx. 10 miles); continue on I-90 East. Exit I-90 at Highway 12/18 West (approx. 5 miles). Follow Hwy. 12/18 until split (6 miles); continue on Hwy. 12 West. Exit Hwy. 12 at Greenway Blvd. (4 miles). Turn left at stop. Turn left at John Q. Hammons Drive (.5 blocks). Turn left at Fourier Drive (2.5 blocks). Hotel on immediate left.

**FROM THE EAST:** From the Milwaukee Area — Follow Interstate 94 West from Milwaukee. Exit Interstate 90 East. Follow I-90 East to Highway 12/18 West (approx. 5 miles). Follow Hwy. 12/18 to split (6 miles); continue on Hwy. 12 West. Exit Hwy. 12 at Greenway Blvd. (4 miles). Turn left at stop. Turn left at John Q. Hammons Drive (.5 blocks). Turn left at Fourier Drive (2.5 blocks). Hotel on immediate left. From Green Bay or Oshkosh — Follow Highway 151 West into Madison. Exit Hwy. 151 at Interstate 90/94 East until split; continue on I-90 East. Exit I-90 at Highway 12/18 West (approx. 5 miles). Follow Hwy. 12/18 until split (6 miles); continue on Hwy. 12 West. Exit Hwy. 12 at Greenway Blvd. (4 miles). Turn left at stop. Turn left at John Q. Hammons Drive (.5 blocks). Turn left at Fourier Drive (2.5 blocks). Hotel on immediate left.

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

## WAAO Membership Classifications

**REGULAR MEMBERSHIP:** Open to officers, officials and employees of governmental bodies whose duties are directly related to property tax assessment and administration.

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP:** Open to officers, officials and employees of governmental bodies not covered by regular membership and to officials, administrators, and employees of educational institutions.

**SUBSCRIBING MEMBERSHIP:** Open to any individual not eligible for regular or associate membership AND who is interested in the science of property assessment and taxation and who subscribes to the purpose of the Association.

Both of these organizations are dedicated to **professionalism in assessment**. They share the common mission of improving the quality of assessment through education, involvement and commitment to the assessment process. The Wisconsin Association of Assessing Officers specifically addresses the needs of the Wisconsin Assessor. The International Association of Assessing Officers provides a broad perspective of activity in our industry.

We encourage you to become actively involved in assessment administration by becoming a member of these organizations.

For further information on the WAAO, call or write Joan Spencer, 630 S. Central Avenue, P. O. Box 727, Marshfield, WI 54449-0727. phone (715)384-3856. For information on the IA AO, call or write to IA AO, 314 West 10th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, 64105. phone (816) 701-8100, Fax (816) 701-8149, <http://www.iaao.org>.

This form can be used for joining either the IA AO or the WAAO. Please check the appropriate area, enclose a check and send to the appropriate address indicated above.

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Check \_\_\_\_\_ Dues (Annual - August 1 through July 31)  
\_\_\_\_\_ New Member                      \_\_\_\_\_ Membership Renewal  
\_\_\_\_\_ WAAO \$35 Regular      \$25 Associate      \$25 Student      \$20 Retired Regular Member      \$70 Subscribing  
\_\_\_\_\_ IA AO      \$175 (First year, or \$87.50 for 1st time members by signing up though IA AO Rep. Mary Reavey (414) 286-8447)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Jurisdiction: Town, Village, City of: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

WAAO  
c/o Joan Spencer, Treasurer  
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