



Meets & Bounds

July 2010

Maine Association of Assessing Officers

President's Message

WOW, Summer in Maine is off to a fabulous start. I hope you have had a chance to get out and enjoy some of what Maine has to offer.

I am pleased to announce that MAAO's Fall conference will once again be held at Sebasco Estates in Phippsburg September 22nd to 24th. Don't forget to set aside the time to attend...The board has been working hard to bring you informative educational offerings. We are excited to announce that on Wednesday we will be offering Alternative Heating Systems and Renewable Power, on Thursday we will be offering Valuation Issues within the context of Property Tax Appeals and Friday morning we are offering Legislative updates.

You can visit www.sebasco.com to view the site and its amenities. A map of the site is available to assist in making reservation decisions.

Once again we are planning to hold a silent auction, if

you have anything to contribute please let Rick Mace know. He is heading up the auction again this year. Thanks Rick

See you there in September!

Tammy Brown, President, MAAO

2010 Board of Directors Meeting Dates

July 23	10:00 a.m.	MMA - Augusta
September 22-24	Fall Conference	Sebasco Harbor Resort
October 12 & 13	MAAO Annual Mtg	Augusta Civic Center MMA Annual Convention
December 10	10:00 a.m.	MMA - Augusta

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Member Profile: Tammy Brown

▲ By Anne J Gregory, CMA, Assessor, Town of Falmouth
email: agregory@town.falmouth.me.us



MAAO President Tammy Brown grew up in Kennebunk. In 1987, she married her husband Donald. They moved to her husband's home on North Haven in 1991. This island community has 365 year round residents that swells to 2,000 in the summer.

Tammy's interest in property assessment was sparked when she applied for the Assessor's Agent position in 1997. She attended Maine Revenue Services annual Property Tax School and received her CMA designation in 2002. North Haven has 700 parcels

with a taxable value of \$413,781,800.

As with most small Maine communities, residents must wear many hats and Tammy is no exception. In addition to her 20 hours per week assessing responsibilities, Tammy is an EMT-Intermediate and Assistant Medical Chief for North Haven Ambulance Services. She is also chair of the Medical Services Board. In her spare time, she coaches the North Haven Rowing Team. This year, her team came in second at the Northeast Regional Youth Rowing Championships held in Hull, Mass.

"What do you like best about assessing, Tammy?" "The public interaction."

"What do you like least?" "Personal property."

"What do you like best about island living?" "The beauty of the Maine coast, from the beaches and shoreline to the hiking paths and the newly constructed windmills there seems to be something new to look at everyday."

"What do you like least about island living.?" "The one hour ferry to get to the mainland before you can begin your travel plans."

"What's your favorite food in the refrigerator today?" "Watermelon."

"Do you have any hobbies?" "Family, kayaking and traveling."

Tammy and her husband have three grown children Amanda, Ryan and Racheal, one dog, one cat, one rabbit and three grandpuppies. ▲

Membership Questions?

Please contact Affiliate Services at: 1-800-452-8786

www.memun.org

63rd ANNUAL MAINE PROPERTY TAX SCHOOL

HUTCHINSON CENTER BELFAST, ME AUGUST 2 – AUGUST 6, 2010

This year, the Maine Property Tax School will be held at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast, Maine and will run from August 2 through August 6, 2010. (Please note that the State of Maine Shutdown Day scheduled for Friday August 6 will NOT affect CMA/CAT testing at the Property Tax School.) I am happy to report that the cost to attend the school will remain about the same as last year.

Open to anyone with an interest in property tax law and administration, the School provides professional training for part-time and full-time Maine assessors as well as all others involved in appraisal, assessment and property tax administration in the State of Maine. This program is administered by the Property Tax Division of Maine Revenue Services through its Training & Certification Program and is designed to address the State's need for a sufficient supply of competently trained municipal tax assessors.

Three Basic Courses; the Review Course (a comprehensive four-day overview of all three Basic Courses for individuals who intend to sit for the Certification exams on Friday); and Advanced Courses in which certified assessors may earn credits toward their recertification requirements. The Basic Courses and the Review Course provide 28 hours of instruction. All classes will be held in the Hutchinson Center, a climate controlled state of the art facility with numerous amenities.

Registration will be held at the Hutchinson Center from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. on Monday, August 2. We will also have a Property Tax Staff member available Tuesday through Friday from 7:30 – 9:00 a.m. in the reception area of the Hutchinson Center. Anyone wishing to register on Sunday, August 1st and avoid the lines on Monday morning may call Jeff Kendall @ 215-3575 anytime after noon and he will make arrangements to meet you and give you your registration packet. ▲



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Regular Membership:	\$30/person
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*Includes all employees
**Includes Boards of Assessors & Elected Municipal Officials

Please visit our website at: www.maineassessors.org for more information and membership application form.

What's The Reduction For A Large Bull?

▲ Submitted by: Darryl L. McKenney

I don't think upping my valuation was justified. If I were looking to buy a house I know I wouldn't be interested in this place with the awful mess of the farmer sitting a few feet from my property, going the whole length of my land.

We have had the animals over running around the house, and they kicked in the front siding on the house. During the spring, summer, and fall the flies are so numerous that I have fly swatters all over, just trying to keep them out of the house. The flies lay all over the siding, over the screens, and on my clean clothes on the line. You can't sit outdoors if you want to.

The farmer has a large bull in the pasture. This past summer, he came over to the fence where I was working in my garden (about 6 to 10 feet away). He was pawing the ground and bellowing at the top of his lungs at me. Twice, it got so bad, I got scared and went into the house.

Most of the fence posts are broken off at the ground and the wire is holding them up. It is a very dangerous situation. We have a store on the other side of our property and a cemetery in back (we have to leave a right-of-way right next to our house for that). This leaves us with less than an acre.

Signed, Waldoboro Resident ▲

**Meets & Bounds publication months:
January, April, July & November**

Please contact Darryl McKenney or a Director if you have any news for the newsletter.

Board of Assessment Review

As of July 2010, The Commissioners of Cumberland County have appointed a Board of Assessment Review.

Historically, the Commissioners have heard valuation appeals from towns that do not have a sitting Board. Currently, they hear appeals for the towns of Baldwin, Bridgton, Casco, Frye Island, Harpswell, Harrison, Naples, New Gloucester, Pownal and Sebago. However, Commissioner responsibilities have grown over the years, so they have deemed it helpful to hand off these duties to a Board founded specifically for this purpose under, Sec 844 of Title 36.

The seven (7) member board is comprised of volunteers who serve without compensation. The 2010 members are BAR members are: Bob Konczal (Chair), Carly Smith (Secretary), Peter Coyne, Ned Kitchel, James Mason, Elizabeth McFadden, and Gerry Daigle (the Sage of North Deering).

The Board has a web page within the County's website. It includes details about the Board, application form, Board procedure guidelines, and a discussion of burden of proof. You may view it at:

<http://cumberlandcounty.org/bar/index.htm>

Update from MAAO Education Chair Bill Healey

I hope everyone is enjoying the great summer! It's hard to believe that the 2010 MAAO Fall Conference is only 2 months away. The MAAO Board has put together another great program for you again this year. I'm sure you will find the educational offerings timely and topical and the presenters to be well versed in the subject matter.

We will have sessions on special assessments, alternative heating systems, valuation issues within the context of property tax appeals, and the always popular legislative update. I look forward to seeing all of you at Sebasco in September.

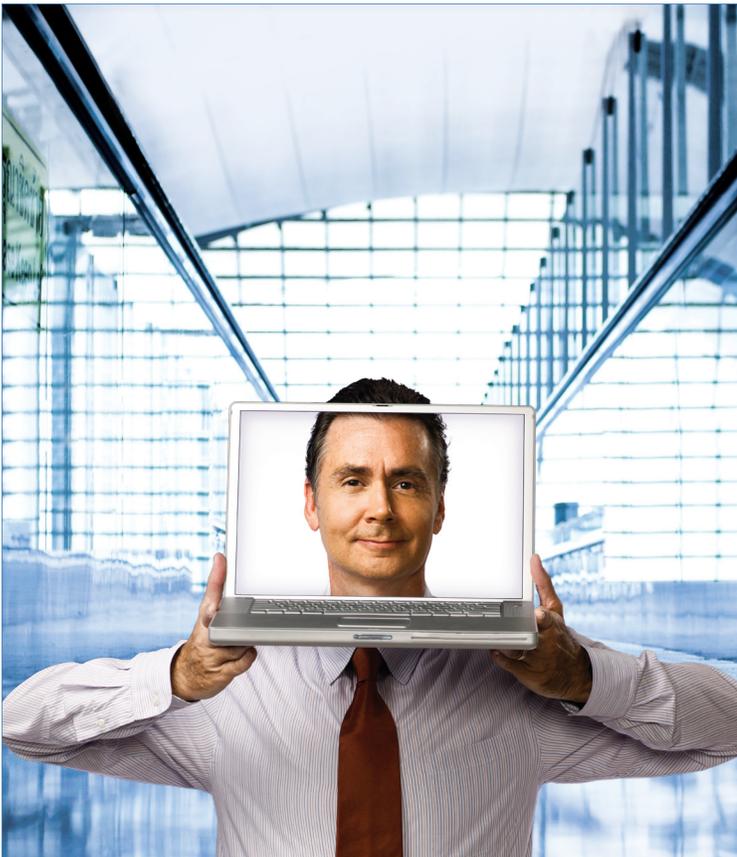


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M.A.A.O.
2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
 Sebasco Harbor Resort
 September 22nd - 24th
3rd Annual Silent Auction

It's not too early to start thinking about our Fall Conference and how you can help out with our Silent Auction. The funds raised at the Silent Auction will be used to help fund our educational goals.

There is no limit on what you can donate to the auction, large or small, new or old, funny or serious! If you don't have anything to donate, maybe you know someone who might be willing; a relative, someone you do business with, or anyone who appreciates their assessor!

Just give me a call if you have any questions or ideas. As soon as you have a donation please let me know what it is.

Thank you, Rick Mace, auction chair

rmace@yorkmaine.org



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MAAO JULY 2010 NEWSLETTER

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