



NEW YORK STATE  
ASSESSORS ASSOCIATION  
**BULLETIN**

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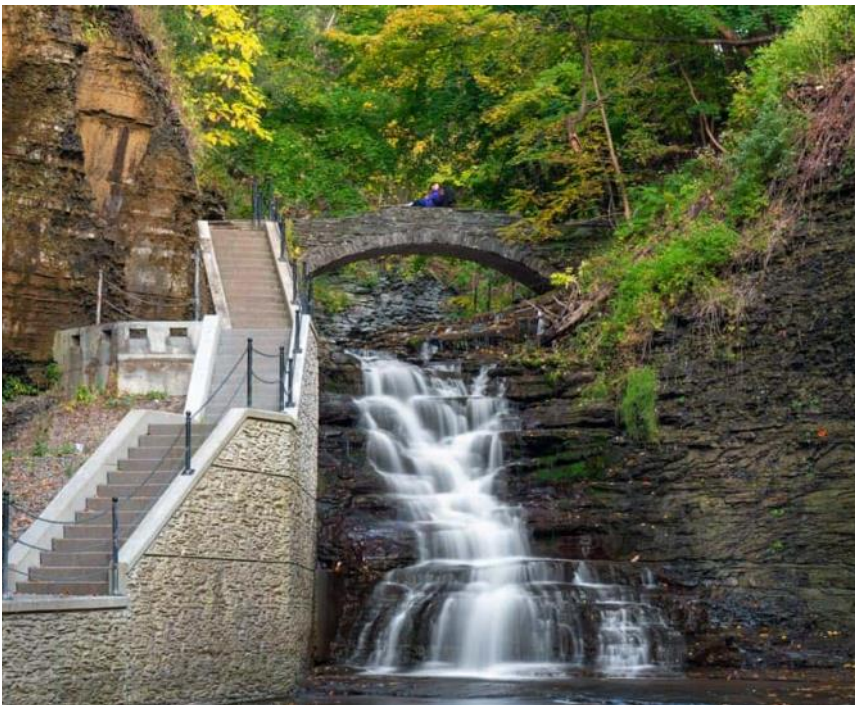
No. 3

# *Study, Explore, Socialize*



July 14-19, 2024  
Hotel Ithaca  
Ithaca, NY

Cornell Seminar on  
Professional Development



Basic certification  
classes, continuing  
education, networking!  
See page 5 for info.

## EDUCATIONAL CALENDAR

All classes listed below are offered online. Please visit [www.nyassessor.org](http://www.nyassessor.org) to register.

Upcoming IAO One-Day Seminars:

### Developing Cap Rates

June 21, 2024

Instructor: Roger Miller, IAO, MAI

Upcoming Basic Certification Class:

### Commercial and Industrial Valuation

June 24, 26, 28, and July 1, 2024

Instructor: John Zukowski, IAO, MAI, SRA

[Click here to register for the above classes.](#)

The following classes are not yet open for registration:

Annual V4 Tasks for Assessors

August 23, 2024

Instructor: Teri Ross, IAO

Reading and Understanding Leases

August 26, 2024

Instructor: John Zukowski, IAO, MAI, SRA

Sales, Sales, Sales

September 6, 2024

Instructor: Todd Wiley, IAO

Critiquing Appraisals for Assessment Challenges

September 11, 2024

Instructor: John Zukowski, IOA, MAI, SRA

Valuation of Self-Storage Units

October 18, 2024

Instructor: John Zukowski, IAO, MAI, SRA

Check the NYSAA website for the most up-to-date information on classes, the Cornell Seminar, and the Fall Conference.

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# President's Message



NYSAA President Maggie Alix

When I sat down to write the last message for the Bulletin, the Women's NCAA East Regional Sweet 16 games had just wrapped up in Albany. Now, we're coming off a weekend of having the Belmont Stakes in Saratoga. Reports are stating that with the Belmont Stakes in Saratoga, there's been a race for real estate. The Belmont not only brought excitement and energy to the Capital Region, but it may also have a notable impact on property values. The high-profile event brought with it an influx of visitors and increased visibility. I'll be anxious to see how the enhanced interests drive property values not only in Saratoga but also in the neighboring towns.

I hope you all had an uneventful grievance season. Even if you found yourselves busier than others, I hope you were treated with respect by the property owners and were supported by your supervisor, staff, and the BAR.

I want to take a moment to emphasize our ongoing efforts to collaborate and represent our Association with partners in our field. At the end of April, NYSAA Executive Director Warren J. Wheeler, IAO and I attended the NYS Town Clerk's Association conference. This week we will be at the NYS Association of Tax Receiver's & Collectors conference. Warren attended the Tug Hill Local Government Conference and Executive Board Member Jill Murphy represented the Association at the Southern Tier West Local Government Conference. Warren does a great job presenting topics at these conferences that are relevant to those with whom we work closely on a daily basis. He presents the information in a way that is both practical and relatable,

which truly catches the attention of those in the class. Thank you, Warren!

At the end of the week, I'll be driving out to Liverpool to meet with the County Directors. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss ways the two associations can collaborate and become a unified front, ensuring that we have strength in numbers and a strong foundation when addressing shared challenges and opportunities with the State.

I would also like to recognize both the Executive Board and IAO Board of Trustees membership committees. One of our recurring board discussions involves how to educate supervisors and board members. We want them to respect and support the assessor, the work that assessors do, and help them to realize how valuable the role of the assessor is in local government. With the help of NYSAA Communications Director Tracy Carman, an article, **Assessors: Your Key Partner in Local Government**, will be published in AOT's upcoming Towns and Topics publication. This was a great collaborative effort, and I'm grateful for all those involved.

We recently welcomed John Noto, IAO, assessor for the Town of Clarkstown, to the Executive Board. John came on the board to fill a vacancy. I would like to thank John for his willingness to serve, and I look forward to working with him. Welcome, John! I would also like to thank Edye McCarthy, IAO and Brian Phelps, IAO for their years of dedicated service to the Association; their hard work has been instrumental in our continued success. Both Edye and Brian have stepped down from their roles as Trustees. The Board of Trustees has appointed two new board members to fill their positions. Please join me in welcoming Tim Sheares, IAO and Leah Cronin, IAO to the Trustees. We are confident that their expertise and fresh perspectives will be valuable assets to our team.

I hope to see many of you at the Cornell Seminar on Professional Development being held July 14-19 at Hotel Ithaca, Ithaca, NY. Your participation will bring value to the overall success of the seminar.

Whether you have plans for travel, relaxation, or new projects, I wish you all a fun and safe summer.

# Executive Director's Message

Every year around this time (after grievance), I tend to take a moment and reflect. For some reason, this year feels different for me. Normally, as I have written in the past, this is the time I would begin my summer educational planning. With grievance day happily in the rearview mirror, I am reminiscent of my tenure as NYSAA executive director.

Can you believe that I have been here just shy of 6 years already? That old saying, time flies as you get older, rings truer every year. As I reflect on our organization, how it functions and operates, and how it continues to be successful, I am reminded of our volunteers' hard work and determination.

You see, when it comes right down to it, whether you are a board member, trustee, or committee member, you are a volunteer. And it is the vast number of volunteers who continue to make my job and this association move in the right direction.

I'd be lying to you and to myself if I told you that this job was easy. There are times when I doubt a decision or my depth of knowledge. However, no matter how challenging things become, I just look around at the wonderful group of people that I am surrounded by, and I can refocus my energy.

It is all of you who drive me. Your passion, your commitment, your unwavering support, not only to me, but to our organization. It is quite extraordinary. By now, you know that I love a good quote, and I feel Elizabeth Andrew nailed it when she said, "Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart." That is so true about everyone that I have the pleasure of working with. Do it with passion, or not at all. My entire career has been built around that idea. Many years ago, I started as a volunteer on a committee, and it ignited something in me that continues to burn today.

We are always looking for volunteers. If you think you would like to get involved, it is never too late. We have a "contact us" form on our website dedicated to committees. If you think you would like to become more involved, this is the best place to start, <https://nyassessor.org/nysaa-committees> (scroll to the bottom).

And, what kind of message would this be if I failed to remind you that our Cornell Seminar on Professional Development in Ithaca in July is open but will be closing soon. This is an excellent opportunity for you to gain additional knowledge in the assessment field, whether you still require some basic courses or you are looking to expand your assessment knowledge, we have you covered.

If you do have the opportunity to come to Ithaca, please stop by and say hello. I love meeting our members and am always curious about any of the day-to-day challenges that you face, and how, as an organization, we can overcome them.



Warren J. Wheeler, IAO  
NYSAA Executive Director

## Did You Know...

NYSAA membership has been consistently growing over the last five years!

Total members in 2019: 836

Total members as of June 13, 2024: 943

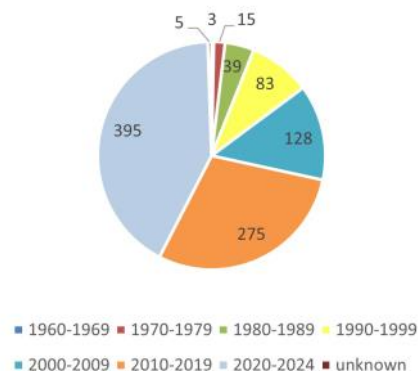
Women outnumber men: 539 to 404

## Fun Facts:

145 joined prior to 2000, 798 members have joined since 2000

84 new members in 2024 so far!

NYSAA Members - Year Joined



# CORNELL SEMINAR

Plans are underway for the Cornell Seminar on Professional Development, scheduled for July 14—19, 2024. Registration for in person classes closes Friday, June 21 and closes July 5 for online classes—don't delay!

Classes start on Monday, July 15, but be sure to plan to attend the welcome cocktail reception and buffet dinner on Sunday, July 14. It's a time to reconnect with your fellow assessors and share stories!

After classes on Monday, July 15, meet up in the hotel for an informal question and answer session. This is the time to ask those questions you've always wanted to ask!

The next few pages list all of the classes available at the Cornell Seminar. Some of the classes are offered in person and online and are indicated as hybrid.

## **In Person Fees:**

### **Two-day classes**

IAO: \$240.00

NYSAA Member: \$260.00

Non-member: \$425.00

### **Four-day class/two two-day classes**

IAO: \$380.00

NYSAA Member: \$400.00

Non-member: \$550.00

### **Five-day class**

IAO: \$450.00

NYSAA Member: \$470.00

Non-member: \$625.00

## **Online Fees:**

### **Two-day classes**

IAO: \$215.00

NYSAA Member: \$245.00

Non-member: \$425.00

### **Four-day classes/two two-day classes**

IAO: \$335.00

NYSAA Member: \$375.00

Non-member: \$550.00

### **Five-day class**

IAO: \$425.00

NYSAA Member: \$445.00

Non-member: \$625.00

**The Hotel Ithaca is the  
Cornell Seminar hotel.**

**The NYSAA block room  
rate is \$139.00 per night.**

**Room reservation infor-  
mation is available at  
[nyassessor.org/cornell-  
seminar](http://nyassessor.org/cornell-seminar).**



# Cornell Seminar

FIVE-DAY CLASSES: MONDAY-FRIDAY, JULY 15-19, 2024

## COURSE 1: APPRAISAL PRINCIPLES AND PROCEDURES (HYBRID)

This is an introductory course of instruction in the appraisal of real property, emphasizing legal considerations, economic principles, real estate markets, and analysis. At the conclusion of this course the student will understand the basic terms, concepts, and principles applicable to valuation; understand the appraisal process and its steps; and apply the valuation process and its steps to course exercises and to “real world” situations.

Instructor: Edye McCarthy, IAO

*This course is required for assessors seeking basic certification from ORPTS.*

## COURSE 2: APPLICATION OF THE THREE APPROACHES TO VALUE (HYBRID)

This is an intermediate course of instruction that will build on assessors' knowledge of basic appraisal procedures and the use of the three approaches to value. At the conclusion of this course, the student will understand and be able to apply the three approaches to value and reconcile the three approaches to value into a final value opinion.

Instructor: Nate Gabbert, FIAO

*This course is required for assessors seeking basic certification from ORPTS.*

FOUR-DAY CLASS: MONDAY-THURSDAY, JULY 15-18, 2024

## DATA COLLECTION

This seminar is designed to provide students with the practical procedures to address issues and characteristics common among most property types, along with lecture and discussion on the importance of proper data collection techniques for both residential and commercial real property and how property characteristics impact valuation. There will be “hands-on” instruction with respect to property inspection, building measurements, and collection of the relevant data through the use of GIS imagery and field trips to select property types. In addition to the “hands-on” instruction, there will be classroom exercises regarding proper completion of the property record card, data entry into RPS, and how to effectively use the data collection manual.

This class is not one of the required basic certification courses. It is not equivalent to Fundamentals of Data Collection.

Field trips may include walking. Please be sure that you can comfortably walk for at least one mile.

Instructor: William Purtell, IAO

# Cornell Seminar

**TWO-DAY CLASSES: MONDAY-TUESDAY, JULY 15-16, 2024**

## INTRODUCTION TO COMMERCIAL VALUATION AND APPRAISAL CRITIQUE

**July 15-16, 2024**

**9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.**

This 2-day commercial valuation seminar introduces the concepts of commercial valuation and applies that knowledge to the critique of commercial appraisals. The concepts and topics of anticipation, cap rate development, income and expense analysis, lease interpretation, sales comparison approach, cost approach, and direct capitalization are presented. Students will apply this knowledge by reading, critiquing, and discussing two complex commercial appraisals used in actual tax appeals. It is suggested the students read annotated versions of the appraisals before coming to class. Copies of the appraisals will be provided in advance of the class.

Instructor: John Valente, Tyler Technologies

## RPSv4: RESIDENTIAL VALUATION

**July 15-16, 2024**

**9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.**

A two-day class intended to provide an in-depth hands-on overview of the capabilities of valuation in RPSv4 for residential and vacant properties. Attendees in this class will learn how to analyze sales to develop and create land tables. There will also be a thorough review of both the cost and comparable sales modules. Finally, an understanding of the valuation module, specifically, the differences between running mass valuation versus utilizing single parcel valuation. Whether you are new to the assessor's office, or a seasoned professional, this course is designed to provide a broader understanding of RPSv4 to make your office more proficient. This will be a hands-on class in the Cornell computer lab where students will be encouraged to practice and use V4 together.

Instructor: Teri Ross, IAO

## RESTAURANT AND FAST FOOD VALUATION

**July 15-16, 2024**

**9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.**

This two-day seminar is a dive into the world of restaurant valuation with special emphasis on fast food restaurant valuation. On the first day, the instructor will discuss types of restaurants, their typical layouts, and features that add or subtract from market value. Next, the class will discuss what is being valued: the market value of the physical structure and land, furniture, fixtures and equipment, and/or the going concern. The second day the class will get into the valuation section and discuss the three approaches to value, ending with a case study on the valuation of a fast food restaurant. This is a great seminar for all levels of assessment professionals and appraisers because restaurant properties are in most towns. DOS credit approved.

Instructor: John Zukowski, IAO, MAI, SRA

*These classes are recommended for those seeking ORPTS continuing education credit.*

# Cornell Seminar

## TWO-DAY CLASSES: WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY, JULY 17-18, TOOLS & RESOURCES ON THE TAX DEPARTMENT WEBSITE

9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Learn more about the website's various tools and resources. Participants will better understand how to find and understand information, learn how to make complex exemption eligibility determinations, and conduct market research using SalesWeb and the Online Sales Report. Students will learn the process on how to efficiently research the website's resources when faced with unusual exemption scenarios in order to make exemption eligibility decisions. Overview of the available resources: Assessor Exemption Manuals, the RPTL, Opinions of Counsel, and RAQs. Overview of SalesWeb and discussion on Ratio Studies with demonstrations. Explanation of the process of performing a Sales Comparison Approach (SCA) for common types of commercial properties.

Topics include:

- Discussion on when a Sales Approach is appropriate vs an Income Capitalization Approach or Cost Approach.
- Description of property characteristics that influence value for various types of commercial properties.
- How to identify potential comparables.
- Selecting the most comparable sales
- Use of a Sales Comparison Grid
- Explanation of the adjustment methodology
- Making a valuation conclusion

This class would benefit newer assessors and more experienced professionals. Attendees need to have their NY. Gov ID: Username & Password to access the secure portion of the website.

Instructor: J. Todd Wiley, IAO

Wednesday-Thursday classes, continued on page 9



### ABOUT NEARMAP

Nearmap provides easy access to high-resolution aerial imagery, city-scale 3D and AI data sets, and geospatial tools.

Nearmap is a pioneering technology and innovation company whose cloud-based geospatial information services and aerial surveys provide certainty to an ever-changing world. Nearmap proactively captures over 80 percent of the U.S. population up to three times each year and offers easy access to high-resolution aerial imagery, including:

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- Location intelligence with Nearmap AI

Every day, Nearmap helps thousands of users conduct virtual site visits for deep, data-driven insights—enabling informed decisions, streamlined operations and better financial performance.



# CORNELL SEMINAR

Wednesday-Thursday classes, continued from page 8

## VALUING SPECIALTY LIVESTOCK FACILITIES: DAIRY FARMS

9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

This 2-day dairy valuation seminar discusses the appraisal issues of specialty livestock facilities. The definition of value issues, waste management, environmental and zoning issues, water supply and water rights, manure easements and leases, property rights values, industry analysis/feasibility study, highest and best use are covered. Day One of this class includes a field trip to two working dairy farms. Please dress appropriately and be prepared to stand and walk for several hours. Participants will be asked to carpool from the classroom on the Cornell campus to farm locations outside Ithaca and to Dryden.

Instructor: Rebecca L. Stone, ARA

## MANUFACTURED HOMES AND MANUFACTURED HOME PARKS

9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

They are called lot of things - trailer parks, mobile home parks, caravans to name a few - but the industry calls them manufactured homes and manufactured home parks. The first day of this two-day seminar will concentrate on the different types of manufactured homes and the various methodologies of valuing this style of homes. The instructor will also discuss the effect of these homes by location both in and out of manufactured home parks. The second day will focus on manufactured home parks. These are complex appraisals for the assessment community, and there is a lot to know. This class will discuss several topics, starting with the different classifications of the parks, including what makes them different and what adds value. It's the same with the homes, manufactured homes built before 1977 can be substantially less valuable due to manufacturing standards and codes. The issue of what is assessable is a big topic. Are these homes personal property? Are models assessable? There are several opinions of counsel and case law decisions to help with this discussion. After a discussion of valuation methodologies for both the homes and parks, the class will look at and how to apply them and which ones are the best to solve a given problem. Each day ends with an appraisal case study. This seminar is for all levels of assessment and appraisal professionals, entry level to seasoned assessors and appraisers. DOS credit approved.

Instructor: John Zukowski, IAO, MAI, SRA

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# Guest Commentary

## What is this Job, but Theater?

By Rob Bick, Assessor, Town of Clay

I was having a discussion with the media the other day, and I made the mistake of throwing out a Shakespeare quote. Why a mistake? It got me thinking:, and some of you know how dangerous that can be.

I thought to myself: What is this job, but some level of modified theater. I say this because it seems like we are always dancing, shuffling and grinding away while singing the same old songs. Tunes like: "I'm sorry, the deadline has passed", "Your income was over the limit", "I don't care who your cousin is", and one of my favorite, "Your neighbors house is not just like yours."

Then there is the most recent #1 hit: "We don't issue checks, you have to call the state." The chorus to that one is: "I was on hold for two hours, and then they said call you!" I think I heard the elevator version just the other day. We all have variations of these hits, and they are timeless. Different decade, same tune. Who knew how slowly property tax administration law would evolve? Not just molasses in January slow, but Ice Age retreat slow!

So, back to Shakespeare. I called up old Willy, (land line of course) and he gave me permission to paraphrase a few of his more famous lines and modify them for my purpose. How fun!! So here we go.

- The course of *equity* never did run smooth.
- Tax* is a constant in all other things.
- The *revaluations Assessors* do live after them; the good is oft interred with them *after retirement*.
- But O, how bitter a thing it is to look at *assessment increases* through another mans eyes.
- Our *value* shall stand as firm as rocky mountains.
- Assessment* is as tedious as a twice told tale, vexing the dull ear of a drowsy man.
- Exemptions* done well and with care, exempt themselves from fear.
- Modest *increases* are called the beacon of the wise.
- How sharper the serpents tooth is to have an *exemption denial*.
- Hell is empty and all *Assessors* are here.
- A victory is twice itself when an *Assessor* brings home full numbers.
- To thine own *roll* be true. (that means-mind your own business-I know that is hard for some of you)
- Is this an *assessment increase* I see before me
- To *deny or not to deny*, that is the question.
- Uneasy lies the head that *signs the oath*.
- Alas poor Yorick. I *taxed* him Horatio.
- Whether tis nobler in the mind to suffer the slings and arrows of outrageous *revaluations*.

The last one is my personal favorite:

All the worlds a stage, and all men and women are merely *PAYERS*. (unless you are a solar farm, wealthy corporation subsidized by the local IDA, non-profit, special interest, special franchise or utility, etc. etc. etc.)

There you have it. These have received the Shakespearean stamp of approval. If you don't know him, read up a little. A master of quantifying the human condition in Elizabethan English.

*Editor's Note: The views in this commentary are those of the author and do not represent NYSAA.*

# THE FUND

## **John H. Way – John M. Costello Memorial Educational Fund Cornell Seminar, Annual Conference, and IAO Scholarships Rules and Procedures**

The John H. Way - John M. Costello Memorial Educational Fund (The Fund) shares the Institute of Assessing Officers' (IAO) objective in the education of assessing officials, government officers, and employees of the State of New York engaged in technical or legal functions related to the valuation of real property and the IAO's wish to promote professional development by providing educational programs.

**In keeping with this objective, The Fund has instituted a program for the awarding of scholarships to help defray the cost of attending the Cornell Seminar and the Annual Conference.**

All **Regular Members** in good standing with the NYSAA, including assessors and staff, are eligible to enter the scholarship lottery. **Staff must be Regular Members to enter.**

The scholarships are awarded annually for the next year's training by lottery drawing at the NYSAA Annual Conference in October.

During the annual lottery, the following number of scholarships and alternates will be chosen:

**Cornell Seminar:** Fourteen (14) primary scholarship winners and six (6) alternates.

**Annual Conference:** Six (6) primary scholarship winners and two (2) alternates.

In the event a primary scholarship winner is unable to attend the training seminar, an alternate will be contacted to back fill the vacant scholarship slot. Alternates will be contacted in the order in which they were drawn during the lottery. If a scholarship slot is still vacant after all alternate winners have been exhausted, that scholarship slot shall remain vacant for that year.

Scholarships must be used for the dates of training specified at the time of the award. If the scholarship is not used, the scholarship is forfeited.

All entry forms are to be submitted to The Fund chairperson, or their designee, or at the Annual Conference, and may be submitted up to the time of the drawing. The date and time of the drawing will be advertised at the Annual Conference and in the NYSAA Bulletin.

A single individual may only take advantage of a scholarship award once in a three-year period (i.e., an award recipient using a scholarship in 2022 would next be eligible for the 2025 seminar).

Scholarships will fund all real and necessary expenses which are paid or would be paid by the scholarship winner and are directly associated with the training seminar.

Direct expenses include the following:

Tuition and required textbook(s) for the seminar.

*Scholarship, continued from page 12*

Hotel Lodging – NYSAA will provide a list of the scholarship winners to the seminar hotel (i.e., the Cornell Seminar or Annual Conference hotel) and the hotel will reserve the rooms. It is the responsibility of a scholarship winner to contact the hotel to confirm their reservation and arrival details. Hotel lodging costs will only be covered for the designated Cornell Seminar or Annual Conference hotel. If the scholarship winner chooses to stay at a different hotel, the lodging cost will not be covered. (Note: meals are included in the package price for the Annual Conference.)

Cornell Seminar Meals:

A meal allowance will not exceed \$50.00 per day for three meals (breakfast, lunch, and dinner).

Commuters (winners not staying at the hotel) will be reimbursed a meal allowance not to exceed the NYSAA established commuter meal rates per day for up to three meals (breakfast, lunch, and dinner) per day.

**Special Note:** If an event-sponsored meal is provided during the seminar, and the meal is offered at no additional cost to the scholarship winner, The Fund will NOT reimburse for that meal (i.e., the Cornell Seminar Sunday dinner).

Mileage if the scholarship winner's personal vehicle is used.

Tolls and parking expenses.

To receive expense reimbursement, the scholarship recipient must submit a signed Travel and Expense Report, and all original receipts, to The Fund chairperson.

Any expenses that will be or are reimbursed to the scholarship winner by their municipality or company will not be reimbursed by The Fund.

The scholarship funds will not reimburse any lost wages during any training seminar.

Scholarship recipients must attend the entire seminar to receive payment of scholarship funds. If a scholarship winner must leave the seminar early, they may submit a written explanation of the circumstances of their departure to The Fund chairperson for consideration by The Fund Trustees. Any consideration of partial payment will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

*Save the Dates—NYSAA  
Fall Conference  
September 23-26, 2024  
Woodcliff Hotel and Spa  
Fairport, NY  
In the beautiful Finger  
Lakes region*



***John H. Way—John M. Costello Memorial Educational Fund***  
**2025 Cornell Seminar, Annual Conference, and IAO Scholarship Lottery**

At the 2024 Annual Conference, The Fund will be giving away twelve (12) scholarships to the 2025 Cornell Seminar and four (4) scholarships to the 2025 Annual Conference. All **Regular Members**, including assessors and assessment staff, in good standing with the NYSAA, are eligible to enter the lottery for these scholarships. **Two (2) IAO Scholarships for the IAO Course 1 and IAO Exam will also be drawn for entrants with four years' experience. These bi-yearly scholarships are offered every two years.** All scholarship drawings will be held the evening of Wednesday, September 25, 2024 at the Woodcliff Hotel in Fairport, NY.

To enter, complete the entry form printed below and return it to:

James Molinaro, Jr., IAO, Chair

John H. Way—John M. Costello Memorial Educational Fund

116 Salina St., Suite 8, Liverpool, NY 13088

(Or drop it in the Scholarship Box at the Annual Conference.)

***John H. Way—John M. Costello Memorial Educational Fund***  
**2025 Cornell Seminar, Annual Conference, and IAO Scholarship Lottery**

Name: (**PRINT LEGIBLY**) \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Municipality: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address/P.O. Box: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Check which lottery you wish to enter (you may enter more than one):

\_\_\_\_\_ Cornell Seminar

\_\_\_\_\_ Annual Conference

\_\_\_\_\_ **IAO Scholarship: IAO Course 1 & IAO Exam (biyearly; requires 4 yrs. experience)**

Is the Regular Member in good standing with the NYSAA? (Circle Y/N)      Yes      No

Regular Member's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# NYSAA AWARDS

One of the highlights of the New York State Assessors Association Annual Conference is the Awards Banquet. This is the night when we honor those members and associates who have been a credit to the assessment profession.

Your nominations and recommendations are critical to the success of this program. Please take a moment to reflect upon the success of your fellow assessors and take time to nominate a candidate for one of the special award categories below.

To nominate a candidate for any of the award categories, please prepare a brief written recommendation describing the qualifications and applicable noteworthy work performed by the candidate, including the prescribed information requested for each award.

All nominations must be submitted by July 1, 2024 to: Dave Roach, IAO, Chair, Awards Committee. Full descriptions of the awards and a submission form (scroll to the bottom) are available on the NYSAA Awards webpage at [NYSAA Awards \(nyassessor.org\)](https://nyassessor.org).

## **FOR MEMBERS:**

### **ASSESSOR'S OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION AWARD**

To be awarded to those individual members of NYSAA actively serving as assessors who have made an outstanding contribution to the state of the art. Recommendations for this award rest with the local county assessors association and must be signed by both the president and secretary of the association, reflecting the favorable action of the specific county organization as a whole, or recommendations may be accepted from three or more of the nominee's peers who are members in good standing of NYSAA.

### **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

This award, the highest afforded by the New York State Assessors Association, is to be awarded discriminately in recognition of those members who have served the association with many years of distinguished and dedicated service: members whose character, integrity, and skill have reflected favorably on both the profession as a whole and the New York State Assessors Association in particular.

### **INNOVATION AWARD**

This award is established to recognize new ideas developed by New York State Assessors Association members in two categories: (1) public information and (2) office procedures and techniques. Public information entries will be considered for the member who has developed the most effective, original idea resulting in some improvement in the office procedures previously employed.

### **MEMBERSHIP AWARD**

This award is presented to the New York State Assessors Association member who has contributed the most in the promotion and recruitment of new members. For the purposes of the award, credit for new member recruitment is granted for the period immediately after an annual conference and extends 60 days prior to the next annual conference.

### **MOST VALUABLE MEMBER AWARD**

This award is presented to the member whose unfailing and diligent endeavors have been most effective in promoting the interest of the New York State Assessors Association during the 12-month period prior to July 1 of the current year.

### **OUTSTANDING NEW MEMBER AWARD**

To be awarded in recognition of the member of the New York State Assessors Association, of less than three years, who has shown character, integrity, and skills that favorably reflect on the New York State Assessors

[NYSAA Awards, continued from page 15](#)

### **ROBERT OSIAS PROFESSIONALISM AWARD**

To be awarded to those individual members of NYSAA actively serving as assessors and who have held their office for at least nine consecutive years, serving with diligence, integrity, and a quiet professional competence that has won the approbation of their peers, the municipality he or she serves, and reflects credit upon the entire profession. Recommendations for this award rest with the local county assessors association and must be signed by both the president and secretary of the association, reflecting the favorable action of the county organization as a whole. It is further advised that such recommendation include supporting letters from the related municipality and the county director of Real Property Tax Service. Recommendations may also be accepted from three or more of the nominee's peers who are members in good standing of NYSAA.

### **SUSAN U. HOWARTH OUTSTANDING STAFF ASSISTANCE AWARD**

To be awarded to those individual members of NYSAA actively serving as staff and who have held their position for at least nine consecutive years, serving with diligence, integrity, and professional competence that has won the appreciation of their peers and reflects credit upon the entire assessment community. Recommendations for this award should be made from the local county assessors association or from three or more of the nominee's peers who are members in good standing of the NYSAA.

### **FOR MEMBERS OR NON-MEMBERS**

#### **CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION**

This award is given to any organization or individual, public or private, who has provided noteworthy assistance to the cause of assessment administration in the areas of legislation and/or education, thus promoting the interests and objectives of New York State Assessors Association.

#### **DISTINGUISHED ASSISTANCE AWARD**

This award is conferred on the organization, agency, or individual, either public or private, who has been most effective in rendering significant support to the cause of assessment administration in the areas of organization and practice.

#### **MEDIA AWARD**

This award is designed to encourage quality coverage of assessment and property tax concerns by the media. These awards are conferred upon individuals or organizations in the news media that have produced an original work that contributes to a better understanding of assessment administration. All works must have appeared or been broadcast within the calendar year prior to submission. The title of the article, editorial, tape transcript (if radio or television broadcast), publication the item appeared in, date, author(s), and reason for recommendation must be included with the nomination.

#### **OUTSTANDING COUNTY ASSOCIATION AWARD**

This award is conferred on a NYSAA county chapter or association that has made an outstanding contribution to the realization of the goals and objectives of the New York State Assessors Association. Examples of such contributions would be educational activities, research and publications, public information activities, and membership recruitment and retention. The chapter or association must have 100% membership for the year prior to and the year in which it is nominated.

#### **PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS AWARD**

This award is given to the governmental entity that has developed and implemented an effective system for the dissemination of information to taxpayers concerning the assessment process. This may include, but is not limited to, public relations forums, brochures explaining assessment administration, local media programs, and development of audio-visual programs. Pertinent information must be supplied to support the nomination in the form of either an original or photocopy of the program/brochure or a copy of any audio-visual program.

# MEMBER MILESTONES

Milestones include new members, position changes, retirements, deaths, etc. Your help is needed to ensure that every milestone is noted! Please email your milestones to [admin@nyassessor.org](mailto:admin@nyassessor.org).

Please welcome new members: Ercan Nuri Aybasti, New York City; Kristine Benedict, Town of Sandy Creek; Mosi Brown, New York City; Amber Bryan, Town of Benton; Samantha Dearaway, Town of Rotterdam; Gina DePace, Town of Bolton; Michael Ferrante, Town of Milan; Candice Ficalora, New York City; Nicole Forchelli, Forchelli Deegan Terrana LLP; Deborah Gable, City of Lackawanna; Jeremy Geartz, Niagara County; Amy Grande, Monroe County; Laurel Hardy, Town of Shelter Island; Rozzano Harvin, New York City; James Hunter, Town of Chenango, Ster Ilhilevskaya, New York City; Jason Jones, Town of Ripley; Nancy Kenlon, Town of Orchard Park; Donald Leistman, Forchelli Deegan Terrana LLP; Allan Mace, Lewis County; Michael McQuade, Town of Hermon; Rebecca Painter, Town of Woodhull; Eric Rogacki, Town of Scio, Brittany Rushlow, Town of Massena; Cynthia Smith, City of Salamanca; Michele Spara, Nassau County; Ken Taylor, Town of Middletown; Jeannette Vogler, Town of Hamlin; Karen Warner, Towns of Rathbone, Caton

Please welcome returning members: Thomas Gabriel, City of Canandaigua; Susan Israel, City of Lockport; Matthew Sabia, Town of Ulster

In Memoriam: Thomas McManus, FIAO, former assessor Towns of Irondequoit, Rush and former director Monroe County RPTS

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Affiliated with the International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) and the Institute of Assessing Officers (IAO), which is chartered by the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York. The New York State Assessors Association Bulletin is published bimonthly. The I.A.O. Journal is published twice a year—usually in January and July. Any news or articles are welcome and should be mailed to:

### \*\*BULLETIN\*\*

Warren J. Wheeler, IAO, Executive Director  
116 Salina St., Suite 8, Liverpool, NY 13088

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