

From the RPC Chair

Sam Luceno, FASA

Dear Fellow ASA Real Property Members,

It is with great pleasure that I introduce our first electronic ASA-RP Journal (ASA-RP e-Journal). This is only possible because of the dedicated efforts, expertise, and long hours donated by Micheal Lohmeier, FASA (Senior Editor) and Kurt Kielisch, ASA (Assistant Editor) along with ASA Headquarters Staff, Christy Jones and Andrea Burkhart.

The RP e-Journal also provides a forum whereby communication is fostered among ASA-RP members as well as the Real Property Committee. Following is a brief list of the on-going work by your Real Property Committee (RPC).

1. **Working Together** - We have been working with various compeer organizations (NAIFA, IAAO, ASFMRA, and IRWA) to jointly improve on education, legislative affairs, and other member benefits.
2. **Massachusetts Board of Real Estate Appraisers** - Through the efforts of Lorrie Beaumont, ASA, ASA-RP and the Massachusetts Board of Real Estate Appraisers (MBREA) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding which will enhance joint efforts in member services including education and legislative affairs.
3. **Expansion of AM** - Your RPC has expanded the AM designation to accommodate not only those members who need a comprehensive examination to qualify for employment with certain Federal Agencies, but also those who prefer not to take a comprehensive exam (competitive with the Appraisal Institute's SRA designation). This is signified as such: AM* - passed the comprehensive examination, and AM – did not take the comprehensive examination. We are now looking into ways to streamline advancement to AM for State Certified Appraisers.
4. **Ad Valorem/Mass Appraisal specialty** - The RPC through the efforts of Micheal Lohmeier, FASA; Paul Roberts, ASA; and David Kramer, ASA has developed a plan for expanding on the Ad Valorem category of membership to include assessors and mass appraisers. This plan which was recently passed by the ASA Board of Governors will change the name of the specialty to “**Ad Valorem/Mass Appraisal**” whereby there will be two categories: General and Residential. In addition, a full spectrum of related education will need to be developed. We believe that this will provide an opportunity for assessors and mass appraisers to join ASA-RP and demonstrate their professionalism and eventually being recognized as professionals.

5. **Education** – In addition to the planned Ad Valorem/Mass Appraisal courses, the RPC will focus on other specialized seminars and courses such as “The Yellow Book”, “Conservation Easements”, “Diminution of Value”, and “Mini-Warehouses” among others. Many educational offerings will be presented on-line and short webinars. In addition, we have a three day course and book on valuing the Real Property segment of “Going Concern” Properties which will enable appraisers to qualify for valuing properties for SBA loans. Deane Wilson, ASA is the author of both the “Going Concern” book and course. Note that ASA designated appraisers are already qualified to appraise going concern properties for SBA loans.
6. **Legislative Affairs** – John Russell, ASA Director of Legislative Affairs and RP Liaison, Mike Orman, ASA, IFAS, Chair of the RP Government Affairs Committee, and Peter Barash, ASA’s representative to various government agencies have been working hard by communicating and lobbying on behalf of our RP Members. Just some of the agencies with which they have been dealing include: IRS, SEC, HUD, GAO, OCC, FDIC, and the collective agencies affected by Title XI of FIRREA. As an example: a recent article on “Customary and Reasonable Fees” published in Appraisal Review noted ASA’s active role in this ongoing battle.
7. **Website** – Lorrie Beaumont, ASA, Publications Chair, is working to expand and improve on our already existing website.
8. **2012 International Conference** – Co Chairs Bill Wilson, ASA and Micheal Lohmeier, FASA along with Barry Alperin and Gary Snowdon, Committee Members have a vibrant and “cutting-edge” educational program for you. The International Conference will be held in Phoenix, Arizona this October 7-10, 2012. As a teaser, the following programs will be presented: Industrial Properties, Malls, Power Plants (along with a tour of the Palo Verde Nuclear Plant), Retail Fuel Stations and Appraisal Review. More information will be posted soon to our national website. You *won’t* want to miss these exciting educational offerings.

Cheers,



Sam Luceno, M.S., FASA
RPC Chair