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Alaska Chapter

NEWSLETTER



Left - AK Chapter President, Bill Barnes, SRA
Right - AI President, James L. Murrett, MAI, SRA

President's Message

by Bill Barnes, SRA, Chapter President

Greetings! I hope that 2018 is turning out to be a prosperous year for all Alaska AI members. Some good news is in order: The Alaska Chapter presently has 111 members out of Alaska's 261 certified appraisers for a 43% capture rate which may be the highest chapter capture rate in the whole country. Nationally, AI has a 21% capture rate which breaks down as a 45% General Certified capture rate but a dismal 10% residential capture rate. With nine new SRA Designations awarded in the Alaska Chapter over the past three years, our chapter has a vibrant residential membership. We anticipate as many as two new MAI Designations may be awarded in our chapter over the next two years as two of our members complete their designation work.

During 2016 & 2017, all three appraiser members of the Alaska Board of Appraisal were Appraisal Institute members with Fred Ferrara, MAI, Dave Derry, MAI and Rob Tracy, SRA serving their three year terms. While Fred Ferrara's term recently expired, Dave Derry, MAI, was recently re-appointed by Governor Walker for another three year term and Rob Tracy, SRA, has one year left of his term.

Speaking of the Alaska Board of Appraisal, Chapter Officers Lydia Larson, Vice President, and myself were requested by several House and Senate committees on three occasions to testify by telephone in support of the eight year reauthorization legislation for the Alaska Board of Appraisal. Dave Derry, MAI, and Rob Tracy, SRA, worked very hard with numerous members of the Legislature in support of the Appraisal Management Company (AMC) legislation working its way through the Legislature this year. The national AI template for AMC legislation was primarily utilized for this legislation.

Last, but not least, our December 7, 2017 Christmas Party held in Anchorage at the O'Malley's on the Green Golf Center was a rousing success with about 55 chapter members and guests attending the buffet dinner. Our Alaska Chapter started a new tradition at the Christmas

Party with President Per Bjorn-Roli announcing that nine SRA and three AI-GRS Designations were earned by Alaska Chapter members over the prior three years. Chapter members earning SRA Designations were Jeffrey Barrus, Ellen Crosson, Susan Crosson, Sarah Graham, Jacob Gurney, Kay Keller, CeCe Mendonsa, Michael Strong and Robert Tracy. The AI-GRS Designation was awarded to William Crawford, MAI, Dave Derry, MAI and Kenneth Gain, MAI.

In May, 2018 we will have a Chapter Lunch Meeting at O'Malley's on the Green. Please make every attempt to attend and guests are most welcome.

Photos From Our 2017 Christmas Party



Christmas Party 2017 - O'Malley's on the Green



Chapter President Per Bjorn-Roli, MAI (Anchorage) awards AI-GRS Designation to Dave Derry, MAI (Kenai)



Christmas Party 2017 - O'Malley's on the Green

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Alaska State Appraisal Board News & Happenings

Certification/Re-certification Fees Reduction

Certification/re-certification Fees for the 2019-2020 biennial period are all being reduced. The certified appraiser certification/re-certification fee will be \$350 (from \$1,050); trainee certification/re-certification \$150 (from \$450); application fee (initial certification) \$150 (from \$450); all plus the mandatory \$80 federal fee. Supervisory appraiser \$0 (no change). After working on this for the last 4 years we have finally been successful with the State Division of Professional Licensing in getting them to recognize what our appraisal certification program is costing and the surplus it has been carrying. We are required to be self-funded so this could change down the road, depending on administrative costs, regulation changes, etc., etc. But for now, great news, we're sorry it didn't apply for 2017.

Appraisal Board Members Changed

The Appraisal Board Members changed effective March 2018. Fred Ferrara, MAI, SRA who has served on the Board for the last 4 years, plus at least four other prior terms (including the 1st Board), is taking a break. Wendy Lawrence, Sitka Municipal Assessor, has been appointed to fill the Certified Residential or General seat. A huge thanks to Fred for his service and a welcome to Wendy. Consider serving on the Board, apply at: <https://alaska.gov/services/boards-and-commissions>

AQB Adopts New Qualification Criteria

It's going to be a little easier to become a Certified Appraiser. The Appraiser Qualifications Board adopted new qualification criteria, effective 5/1/18 that allows some options to the college degree requirement for Certified Residential credentialing and reduces the number of

“Experience” hours and months for both residential & general certification. We'll need to change our (Alaska) regulations to match these criteria, a process that will take a few months to enact. We'll take this up at our next Board meeting, and get the ball rolling. The alternatives to a college degree list 6 options, and as we might expect from federal legislation, is pretty convoluted, way too long to report here. Contact me for a “Summary” (from AQB) or research TAF-AQB on-line.

New Legislation Grinding Its Way Through Alaska Legislature

- First is the **“Sunset Bill”** (HB 278) which extends the appraisal board to 6/30/2026. We are subject to sunset (like all Alaska boards) with ours sunsetting 6/30/2018. The bill extends our board for the maximum allowed time, and a thank you to Rep. Andy Josephson for sponsoring this. We don't anticipate any problem with this passing.
- **Appraisal Management Company (AMC)** legislation (HB 329 & SB 155) is working through the respective bodies. This will allow the Appraisal Board to regulate AMCs operating in Alaska, authorized under Dodd-Frank & Title 11. We are one of four states that have not enacted AMC legislation to date. The Alaska Chapter, Appraisal Institute drafted a bill and tried to get this into the legislative process in 2015, but couldn't find any legislator to sponsor it. Now, the AMC lobby group (REVAA) and Wells Fargo have hired a lobbyist (Ashley Reed) to carry the water on this, and it's rolling through. Under federal regs, if a state appraisal board doesn't enact AMC regulations, then AMCs (all) can't operate in the state. The drop dead date (federal) for enactment is 8/2018, but there is an option for a 1 year extension which we have asked for. We have been arm wrestling (between the board and REVAA/Wells) over some of the provisions in the individual bills, but from the big picture, the Alaska appraisers and public will be adequately protected. This whole AMC issue is really involved, so if anyone is still reading this, and wants to know more, call me. A special thanks to Rep. Andy Josephson who sponsored the house bill and has supported our board positions on AMC oversight provisions.

Keep Track of Your Continuing Education Hours

We are still seeing some appraisers that don't meet the biennial CE requirement of 28 hours (minimum) with no more than 14 hours (based on minimum) on-line. You must also take the 7 hour USPAP course (which can be included in the total hours). As part of the re-certification process we do a random audit (mandatory under federal oversight) which results in a fine, legal Consent Agreement, and a disciplinary incident on your record. We don't like it any more than you do, so audit your hours before you send in your re-certification.

Board Members: Dave Derry (Kenai), Rob Tracy (Wasilla), Renee Piszczek (Fairbanks), Don Faulkenburry (Anchorage), Wendy Lawrence (Sitka). If you have any questions or comments, contact any Board member either directly or through Dawn, our state examiner at: Dawn.Dulebohn@alaska.gov.

**Thanks,
Dave Derry, MAI, AI-GRS
Chair**

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Alaska Chapter of the Appraisal Institute
Chapter Lunch Meeting
at
O'Malley's on the Green
May 9, 2018

www.alaskaai.org

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