



Illinois Association of County Officials NEWS

"...improving the quality of public service through education."

SUMMER 2022

www.iacoonline.org

Spring Conference Recap:

Spring Conference was a huge success. Thank you to all that attended and made it so! It was such a joy to be back at the Crowne Plaza after many years away, and they were such gracious hosts. You will hear more about the details of the conference throughout the newsletter, but here are some quick highlights:

- We had over 400 attendees and 120+ vendor representatives (59 unique vendor companies!).
- 6 speakers put together 8 amazing educational sessions with topics from HR, to ARPA, to the infrastructure bill, and more!
- IACO awarded scholarships to 4 exceptional young adults and raised money to keep our fund healthy for future generations of scholarship recipients.
- There were many opportunities to spend time with our wonderful vendors in the exhibit hall, hospitality suites, and user group meetings.
- Affiliate meetings were another awesome opportunity for education and training.
- And, we headed to the beach for a luau themed President's Banquet where we played some games and announced the winners of our 50/50 raffle!

Make sure to check out the rest of the newsletter for details on all the fun we had, and to find out what is coming up next for IACO!

Message from our President

Bobbi Rairden
Douglas County Treasurer

WOW!! What a phenomenal conference we had in May!! I trust fun was had by all and that you all learned something. I know I did. Even after almost 25 years in office, I ALWAYS take away valuable information from these conferences. For those of you who missed an education session or couldn't attend, we have added the speaker presentations to our website. You should see a link to them on the homepage at www.iacoonline.org. We are also highlighting our unbelievable scholarship winners in here. Every year I am in awe

of the young people we have apply for and who receive our scholarships. It gives me hope for the future. Speaking of scholarships, see the blurb in here about our definition/explanation for parents and grandparents of students seeking success in trade/technical/vocational schools. We hope to award scholarships for these programs in the future.

We had such a fun time at the Luau!! AND we raised lots of money for the scholarship program. I want to thank all the great sports who participated in our games that evening. It was so much fun! The laughter and fellowship of that night will be felt for a good long time. I hope you take those opportunities to rekindle old friendships and make new ones. We are each other's biggest source for advice and information. It is invaluable. I encourage all of you to participate in your zone meetings and all of these conferences. We are all in this together. Lean on each other.

I want to give a HUGE shoutout to ALL of our wonderful vendors! We had an amazing turnout of vendors. So much we had to expand the room a few times! That is fantastic!! We so appreciate all of you, seasoned and new. The information and products you bring to our masses make all our jobs more manageable. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! An equally heartfelt Thank You goes out to our IACO staff. Tamiko and Autumn are this president's right and left hands. I have a vision and they make it happen. And, of course, Nancy is there to count the money. Many thanks for all that they all do for the IACO Board and for you all as affiliates.

Please remember we will be having a HUGE Retirement Party in November at fall conference. I am so excited to celebrate everyone! Plan now to attend. See you all in Normal in November!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR & PLAN TO ATTEND!

2022 IACO Fall Conference

November 21-23, 2022 (Monday - Wednesday)

Bloomington-Normal Marriott Hotel & Conf. Center - Uptown Normal, IL

Registration will open August 15th

2022 IACO OFFICERS:

President

Bobbi Rairden - Douglas County Treasurer

President Elect

Melissa Hurst - Coles County Circuit Clerk

Vice President

Rebecca C. McNeil - McLean County Treasurer

Secretary / Treasurer

Erin Cartwright Weinstein
Lake County Circuit Clerk

Immediate Past President

Mike Iwanicki - VAC of McHenry County

2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Assessment Officers

Mark Armstrong - Kane County

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Shannon Teresi - McHenry County

Circuit Court Clerks

Tammy Weikert - Rock Island County

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Chris Marsh - White County

County Board Members & Commissioners

Michael Holliday, Sr. - Madison County

County Clerk and Recorders

Karen A. Stukel - Will County Recorder

Regional Superintendent of Schools

Michelle Mueller - ROE #40

County Treasurers

Kirby Ballard - Greene County

Veterans Assistance Commissions

Andrew Tangen, JD - Lake County

INDUSTRY PARTNERS:

Scott LePenske - Devnet

Mike Meyer - Computer Information Concepts

Becky Jansen - PayCourt

STAFF:

Tamiko Kinkade, Administrator

Nancy Krumwiede, Comptroller

Autumn Devos, Assistant

IL Association of County Officials

P.O. Box 9296 - Springfield, IL 62791-9296

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Scholarship Fund-Raising! Thank you!

IACO Members: You came to the Spring Conference prepared to give generously--purchasing a total of \$3800 in 50/50 raffle tickets! Thank you so much for your participation.



The 50/50 Draw Down was great fun and ended with 3 winners choosing to split the proceeds. Congratulations to Nikki Meier, Lynn Reed, and Kelly Fulker-son who walked away with \$633.33 each. The remaining \$1900.00 was placed into the scholarship fund.

Thanks to our vendor who sweetened the pot by donating money toward extra raffle prizes that were given out to 50/50 ticket holders.

Thank you to IMET- \$100 and CIC- \$50!

Thank you all for seeing the value in our scholarship program and enabling us to invest in the futures of our well-deserving scholarship recipients.

Additional 2022 IACO Scholarship Fund Contributors:

Thank you to the following affiliate organizations, industry partners and others who have generously donated to our scholarship program!

Affiliate Donors:

Assessors \$100

Circuit Clerks \$100

Regional Superintendents \$100

Treasurers: \$100

VAC \$100

Vendor Donors:

PayCourt: \$500

DEVNET: \$1,500

Individual Donors:

Jack Cunningham, Kane County Clerk: \$500



Thank you!

Mike Iwanicki IACO Immediate Past President was presented the 2020/2021 president's award for his service to IACO as president. He was to receive the award at the IACO Fall Conference but was unable to attend due to COVID.



2022 IACO Scholarship Recipients

Andee Brown of Havana, Illinois is the winning recipient of the 2022 IACO 2-Year Community College Scholarship worth \$500.00.

Andee attended Havana High School where she has maintained a cumulative GPA of 3.6. Andee is planning to attend Lincoln Land Community College on an Athletic Scholarship for softball. She is pursuing an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice and then is planning to attend a 4-year University to become a Homicide Detective. She would also like to continue her dream of playing softball at the University level.

Andee Brown is the daughter of Summer Brown the Mason County Clerk and Recorder.



Savannah Hall of McLeansboro, Illinois is the winning recipient of the 2022 IACO 2-Year Community College Scholarship worth \$500.00.

Savannah attends Hamilton County High School where she has maintained a cumulative GPA of 4.7. Savannah is planning to attend Rend Lake College where she will be pursuing an Associate's Degree in Applied Science. Her plan is to obtain a degree in business.

Savannah Hall is the daughter of Sarah Hall the Hamilton County Treasurer.



Caleb Hurst of Charleston, Illinois is the winning recipient of the 2022 IACO 4-Year University Scholarship worth \$1,000.00.

Caleb attended Charleston High School where he has maintained a cumulative GPA of 5.23 and ranked 5th out of 174 students. Caleb currently attends Lake Land College on a Baseball and Presidential Scholarship. He is pursuing a major in Biochemistry. Caleb is planning to attend Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville and then attend medical school with a primary interest in Radiology.

Caleb Hurst is the son of Melissa Hurst the Coles County Circuit Clerk.



Caroline V. Helms of Cedarville, Illinois is the winning recipient of the 2022 IACO 4-Year University Scholarship worth \$1,000.00.

Caroline attended Freeport High School where she has maintained a cumulative GPA of 4.19 and ranked 5th out of 202 students. Caroline currently attends University of Southern California in Las Angeles where she is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Law, History and Culture. She plans to attend Law School after graduation.

Caroline Helms is the daughter of Stephanie Helms the Ogle County Treasurer.



Scholarship Technical/Trade School

The IACO Board will be offering two \$500 scholarships next spring for students who will be attending a Trade School. These schools are also known as Technical or Vocational schools. Trade schools highlight the importance of vocational training for students who aren't on a college degree track. Vocational/Technical/Trade schools provide training for any number of meaningful careers with high earnings potential. Whether a student attends a private technical school or a community college for vocational training, they should apply for these scholarships. Not every student is destined for college. We understand that. We believe in supporting students interested in a trade. Education comes in many forms, and we want every student to know how valuable their eventual skills can and will be. Following are but a few of the trades: cosmetologist, esthetician, barber, airplane mechanic, auto mechanic, tractor mechanic, massage therapist, plumber, dental hygienist, chef, home inspector, LPN, legal assistant, electrician, welder, HVAC, and the list goes on.

Special Thanks to our Conference Sponsors!

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Special Thanks to our Participating Vendors!

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BlueCrest	Silver Sponsor	NextVote.....	Bronze Sponsor
Bruce Harris & Associates, Inc.....	Silver Sponsor	Output Services Group, Inc.....	Silver Sponsor
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Computer Information Concepts, Inc. (CIC)	Gold Sponsor	PMA Financial Network, LLC.....	Bronze Sponsor
Court Money	Bronze Sponsor	PayCourt (Formerly Credit Collection Partners)	Bronze Sponsor
DEVNET Incorporated.....	Platinum Sponsor	Point & Pay	Bronze Sponsor
Election Systems and Software	Bronze Sponsor	SaltusTechnologies	Exhibitor
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IMET	Non-exhibiting/Luau Sponsor	VR Systems.....	Bronze Sponsor
Invoice Cloud	Silver Sponsor	Wipfli LLP.....	Silver Sponsor
JANO Technologies	Exhibitor		





Special Thanks to our Luau Sponsors:



- Kofle
- Harris & Harris
- Devnet
- CIC
- GBS
- IMET
- Ameresco





Legislative Committee Update

**Mark Armstrong, Legislative Chair
Kane County Assessor**



IACO Legislative Breakfast Recap

One of the highlights of the 2022 IACO Spring Conference was the annual IACO Legislative Breakfast. Legislators appearing in person included Sen. Steve McClure (R- Sangamon County) and Sen. Sally Turner (R-Logan County), as well as an appearance by Representative Dan Brady (R-McLean County); legislators appearing virtually included Sen. Don DeWitte (R-Kane County), Sen. Ann Gillespie (D-Cook County), and Sen. Craig Wilcox (R-McHenry County). The Breakfast was moderated by McLean County CCAO Timothy Jorczak.

More than 75 County Officials were present to hear a variety of questions about new legislative initiatives, changing local government responsibilities and funding priorities, and unfunded mandates. Each of the legislators gave their perspective on the topics, and offered suggestions about communicating with legislators both in their districts as well as in Springfield.

At the conclusion of the breakfast, attendees were able to mingle with the legislators and ask a few questions one-on-one. The IACO Legislative Committee is grateful for all who worked to make our annual Legislative Breakfast a success.

IACO LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Mark Armstrong, Chairman
Kane County Supervisor of Assessments

Kirby Ballard
Greene County Treasurer

Julie A. Bliss
Boone County Clerk

Andrea Chasteen
Will County Circuit Clerk

Tony Cox
Gallatin County Coroner

Lincoln C. Hobson
Tazewell County Circuit Clerk

Jennifer Gomrick Minton
St. Clair County Assessor

L. Scott Schwerer
McDonough County Board Member

John Murray
Lake County Senior
Veterans Service Officer

Jessica Thomas
Peoria County Auditor

Bobbi Rairden, IACO President
Douglas County Treasurer



Illinois County Treasurer's Association Conference Recap

We had our Illinois County Treasurers' Association meeting on Thursday, May 12, 2022 at The Crowne Plaza. Our committee members for the spring conference were, Staci Mayall, Deshawn Williams, Penny Thomas and Cassandra Johnson. It was a very informative conference with presenters from Fifth Third Bank giving a presentation on Fraud Protection, Chris Slusser and Holly Kim educated the group on Investments, Kirby Ballard and Brittan Bolin discussed the legislative process, and we followed up with Curt Newport enlightened us on tax correction requirements. We had a very successful conference with over 60 treasurers in attendance. We are looking forward to our summer conference that will be held in Carbondale, August 3rd, 4th and 5th.

Submitted by: **Betty Asmussen**
Christian County Treasurer
President, Illinois County Treasurers' Association

**Conference Registration for the Treasurer's Summer Conference is open at www.iacoonline.org.
Click on the Calendar link on the right side of the webpage.**



IACO 2022 County Official of the Year

Deadline for Submission: **4:30pm on Monday, October 31, 2022**

Previous Winners

1990	Terry Desmond County Clerk
1991	Chris Martin Treasurer
1992	Nelson Hagnauer County Board
1993	Bonnie Barton Sup. of Assessments
1994	John Novak Treasurer
1995	Bobby Myers Treasurer
1996	Steve Sonnemaker Auditor
1997	Barbara Gross County Clerk
1998	Lynn Reed Coroner
1999	Shirley Booker Treasurer
2000	Becky Kramer County Clerk
2001	Nancy Krumwiede Treasurer
2002	Bill Underwood Coroner
2003	Tom Ross Auditor
2004	Joel Kegan Circuit Clerk
2005	Kirby Ballard Treasurer
2006	Betty Coffrin Clerk/Recorder
2007	Tony Cox Coroner
2008	Ron White County Board
2009	Jeff Simpson Sup. of Assessments
2010	Lindi Kernan Sup. of Assessments
2011	Bruce Troutman County Treasurer
2012	Victoria J. Harper County Treasurer
2013	Dave Dobill Clerk/Recorder
2014	Wendy Ryerson Sup. of Assessments
2015	Bruce Clark County Clerk
2016	Gina Noe Circuit Clerk
2017	Cindy Braden Circuit Clerk
2018	Tom Cavanagh County Treasurer
2019	Mark Armstrong Sup. of Assessments
2020	Holly Lemons Circuit Clerk
2021	Bob Kahman Sup. of Assessments

Each year the IACO recognizes an outstanding county government official who best demonstrates our mission of improving the quality of county government through education, promoting responsible public policy, and providing ethical service while maintaining a high standard of performance. This form is intended to facilitate the selection process by providing biographical information of each candidate. All nomination forms must be received by the deadline in order to be considered.

Purpose and Criteria: The purpose of the Illinois Association of County Officials' County Official of the Year Award is to recognize a county government official or employee who has demonstrated a commitment to excellence in county government both within his or her own community and on a regional or statewide level. This distinction will be made each year to one person representative of the high ideals embraced by the Illinois Association of County Officials, (IACO).

Eligibility: Any elected or appointed official or employee of a IACO member county is eligible. Current members of the IACO Board of Directors are ineligible to receive the award.

Award: The results will be kept secret until the Fall Conference. At the Fall Banquet, the award will be presented to one individual who has made significant contributions through their service.

Nominator Responsibility: In most instances nominations will come from the nominees affiliate organization. The nominator is expected to ensure that the nominee is at the Fall Conference Banquet to receive the award. It is not however required that the nomination come from the nominees affiliate organization. The Veterans for instance may nominate a candidate from the Coroner's, but such a nomination would require considerable research by the Veterans to understand the position of Coroner and prepare a nomination that can compete with other nominees. It would be better for the Veterans to contact the Coroners and seek support for the potential nominee.

Selection Process: The selection of the County Official of the Year is a difficult process – due in large part because of the high quality of the candidates. Our overall goal is to establish a process that results in a fair selection with as minimal bias as possible. The members of the committee all represent an affiliate organization – and it is natural that we would support the individual nominated from our own affiliate – if for no other reason than we are most familiar with the service and dedication of that individual. So our goal was to minimize that bias to the extent possible and streamline the application process.

Here is the selection process that we have used since 2009.

- 1) Any currently serving county official (at the time of nomination) will be considered for the award. Individuals that have resigned or retired earlier in the year are not eligible. (The Board noted the IACO President can at any time recognize an individual with a "President's Award".)
- 2) To minimize the inherent bias of committee members (supporting the candidate from their own affiliate organization) the Board approved a selection process currently being used by another national organization:
 - a) Each IACO Awards Committee member is responsible for selecting a "judge" from outside the IACO membership, such as a local judge, state official, or community leader. Contact information for the judge is forwarded to the Awards Committee Chairperson.
 - b) Nominations are forwarded to these judges directly from the Awards Committee Chairperson along with a scoring sheet. (Committee members do not receive the applications.)
 - c) Judges rank the nominees in several categories based on the merits of the application and forward the scoring sheets back to the Chairperson.
 - d) The Chairperson tallies the scores and announces the winner at the Fall IACO Conference.
- 3) Use of a standardized application.
- 4) Use of a standardized scoring sheet for use by judges.

**The official nomination form and supporting materials must be received by
4:30pm on Monday, October 31, 2022**



IACO 2022 County Official of the Year

Deadline for Submission: **4:30pm on Monday, October 31, 2022**

The Illinois Association of County Officials "County Official of the Year" Award is given annually to individuals who have contributed to the betterment of county government in a manner above and beyond what is expected in their everyday duties. It is not a longevity award, but recognition of significant contributions to their county government and county government in general.

Sponsor/Contact Person:

Name: _____ Position: _____

Affiliate: _____ Title (within affiliate organization): _____

Work Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

County Official of the Year Candidate:

Name: _____

Current Position (Office & County): _____

Number of years the candidate has worked in county government: _____ Number of years in current position: _____

Has this candidate been nominated for this award in the past? If so, when? _____

Please attach a biography of the Candidate (limit up to 1000 words) written by someone **other than the candidate** which demonstrates his/her overall professionalism and dedication to county government, specifically highlighting the following:

1. Service and leadership in their respective county, including improvements or efficiencies in the operation of nominees own office or local jurisdiction;
2. Service and leadership within their respective affiliate organization, including positions held within the affiliate organization, and years of participation;
3. Service and leadership within their communities;
4. Dedication to continuing education;
5. Service and leadership with other affiliate organizations, including IACO.
6. Letters from peers encouraged.

This form is intended to facilitate the selection process by providing biographical information of each candidate. All nomination forms must be received by the deadline in order to be considered. The official nomination form and supporting materials must be received by 4:30pm on Monday, October 31, 2022 by mail, e-mail (pdf format only) to:

Rebecca McNeil, Awards Committee Chair

McLean County Treasurer

115 East Washington - Bloomington, IL 61702-2400

rebecca.mcneil@mcleancountyil.gov

Saving feels better.



The National Association of Counties (NACo) has enhanced the Live Healthy Discount Program to deliver greater healthcare savings to county residents at **NO COST** to the county.

No-cost Prescription Discount Program.

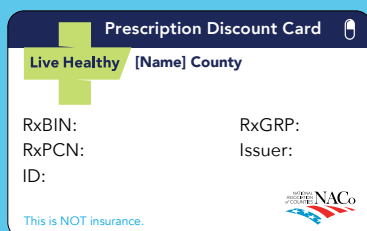
- **Save up to 80%*** on generics and **up to 40%*** on brand-name prescription medications for residents and their pets

Low-fee health discounts nationwide.

- Provides 24/7 telemedicine service and **save 15% to 75%** on vision services, hearing aids and screenings, diabetes supplies, prepaid lab work and more

Low-fee dental discounts nationwide.

- Save **15% to 50%** on check-ups, cleanings, fillings, crowns, x-rays, root canals and more at over 110,000 participating providers



To learn more and enroll your county,
visit NACo.org/Health

*This is not insurance. Savings may vary by drug and by pharmacy. The Prescription Discount Card is operated by CVS Caremark®. The Discount Medical Organization for NACo Health and Dental Discounts is Alliance HealthCard of Florida, Inc. All rights reserved. ©2022 CVS Caremark

