



NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE MAINE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

President's Message

President's Message: A Summer of Collaboration and Advocacy

Summer in Maine is a fabulous time! It also features many activities both in state and out of state. With fairs & festivals, visitors who come to enjoy our state, beautiful weather and longer days top off this time of year. And our county duties continue, the focus remains on the essential work done for citizens. This year one of my goals is better collaboration.

FARMINGTON MCCA MEETING

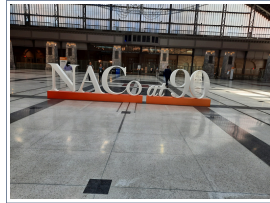
Our July meeting in Farmington, was hosted by Franklin County. We got to see their new EOC building and over 70 county officials and staff joined us for all or part of the day. Representatives from Maine Municipal Association were also in attendance. It was a great time to do some work, hold county partner and subcommittee meetings and get to know our colleagues. I thank all who worked hard to make this event a success and for those who joined us as well. We also welcomed guest speakers Tom Judge from LifeFlight Maine and Andi McGraw from Northern Light EMS Services who share efforts underway to provide EMS coverage and seek more collaboration in this important area. We wrapped with a nice reception at the Root Down Market.



NACo ANNUAL CONFERENCE-PHILADELPHIA, PA

Maine was well represented at the National Association of Counties (NACo) Annual Conference and Exposition in Philadelphia, Pa., from July 11th - 14th. Commissioners George Jabar & Robert Sezak (our NACo board members) and administrators, Ryan Pelletier, Tim Curtis & Scott Adkins also were in attendance. This annual event brought together county officials to review local government issues. Discussions focused on maintaining fiscal health, innovations, workforce development, and strengthening intergovernmental partnerships. Exchanges with colleagues and federal agency representatives provided some interesting insights for Maine's delegates. It was also a celebration of NAC's 50th year serving county government

MAINE AT NACO ANNUAL MEETING IN PHILADELPHIA



MAINE CONVENTION OF COUNTIES- SEPTEMBER 18TH-20TH, SEBASCO HARBOR RESORT



Work is well underway for our annual convention with a packed schedule of speakers and panel presentation. Have you registered to attend? Here's the link to see what is instore and make your reservation.

<https://www.mainecounties.org/convention.html>



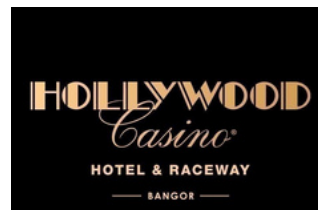
GOLF TOURNAMENT

Plus, our first (annual?) golf tournament on the afternoon of September 17th at Sebasco Harbor Links golf course.

This will be a fun event and an opportunity for networking.

Wednesday night will be an opening reception, then a full day of presentations on Thursday. Lunch will feature Matt Chase CEO for the National Association of Counties. The exhibit hall will open be open 10am-4pm with a 4pm reception followed by dinner.

Friday morning we start off with more panel presentations, then lunch with members of the Maine Revenue Forecasting team and an enjoyable and entertaining talk by Maine comedian Gary Crocker. Afternoon has some activities for you followed by our reception and awards dinner. Saturday morning is scheduled to have coffee with Congress. We plan on members of our federal delegation will meet to share what's happening in Washington DC.





Convention of Maine Counties

SEPTEMBER 18-20th

at the Beautiful

Sebasco Harbor Resort Phippsburg, Maine

FEATURED SPEAKERS



Matt Chase,
NACO CEO



Amanda Rector,
State Economist



Troy Morton
Penobscot County
Sheriff



Maine Humorist
Gary Crocker



The Scotty
River Trio



Comedian
Deadair
Dennis Maler

Fun times call for Entertainment

This Year's Theme
STRONGER TOGETHER

REGISTRATION IS OPEN

<https://www.mainecounties.org/convention.html>

GREAT INFORMATIONAL PANELS

EXHIBIT HALL

EMA Display-Thursday the 18th

Tentative Friday afternoon activities

- Cruise
- Bowling
- Game room
- Trivia contest

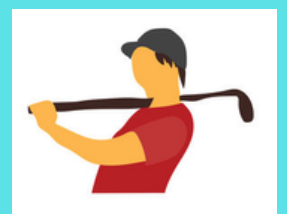
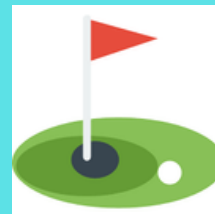
A great chance to meet with colleagues
& learn more about county government

**What County will
claim bragging rights??**

We want you to help make this event a success and perhaps stand out a bit. So we have a little friendly competition. The county with the most points will take home the trophy for the year! Point can be accumulated based upon attendance, participation and help with sponsors

See MCCA website for details.

<https://www.mainecounties.org/convention.html>



Golf Tournament
September 17th

noontime shotgun start

THIS MONTH'S FEATURED COUNTY-SAGADAHOC

by Amber Jones, County Administrator

While the nature of counties is to operate regionally, each county in the state is structured a little differently. Some examples of the way the Sagadahoc Sheriff's Office acts regionally is the added role of Shellfish Warden for two municipalities. The Sheriff's Office also leveraged opioid funds to share a Mental Health Liaison with the Brunswick Police Department. Our Probate office established parameters for the Vopro Program, to encourage more people to apply to be Court-appointed visitors for the adult guardianship cases.



Emergency Radio Tower Project Nears Completion

Sagadahoc County leveraged ARPA funds to complete two major projects, the repair of the county courthouse roof, and the construction of three county emergency radio communication towers. The West Bath tower is complete and the others in Georgetown and Phippsburg are slated for completion before the end of the calendar year. With space to host other public emergency agencies at a lower rate, as well as two cell carriers on each tower, the county hopes to use potential revenue to support and stabilize county emergency communications. Once the new tower configuration goes live, there will be a marked improvement in reach and clarity of communications.



District 6 Corrections Collaborative works with SMRT on facilities assessments
The (Prosecutorial) District 6 (Lincoln, Sagadahoc, Knox, and Waldo) Corrections Collaborative has been working with SMRT engineers on a feasibility study to expand the regional aspect of Two Bridges Regional Jail to include Knox and Waldo counties. SMRT has completed assessments of the three facilities to define the capital needs of each facility going forward and to establish a fair boarding cost structure. Eventually the collaborative hopes to share medical and other service contracts to bring the operating costs down.

Leveraging Opioid Funds

Sagadahoc County has entered into several project agreements supporting those affected by the opioid crisis. The County Board of Health employed a stakeholder survey to determine how best to approach and support the needs presented. Along with school programs, the Sagadahoc EMA Director acquired a "crisis canine" named Chaos, who has already been helpful in the field. The Sheriff's office not only contracted with a Mental Health Liaison to work directly with law enforcement, but the County created a position for a Community Navigator as well. This individual will work directly with the public and will have an office on the third floor of the courthouse.



Hosting MCCA Conference

The Sagadahoc County Commissioners look forward to hosting this year's MCCA Conference at Sebasco Harbor Resort in Phippsburg, and to the many constructive and engaging discussions, presentations and networking activities that we will all benefit from. We anticipate having an excellent turnout this year and are excited to explore the topic of regionalization, because it is true that we really are "stronger together".