

Mass-ALA Membership News



“In the world of June, the world of leaf and blade and flowers explodes. And every sunset is different.” John Steinbeck.

June is one of the best months of the year! It's like a reward for getting through a cold winter, a chilly, damp spring and then boom, June arrives with its blue, blue skies, and roses, peonies, and poppies! And as John Steinbeck said, every sunset is different. It's a glorious time of year and the best thing about June?? Ask any child you meet what they feel is the best thing about June and they will always say “Schools out for Summer!!!” And I think all of us experience some of that same joy that June has arrived. We know that the weather is going to get warmer, and we will be able to vacation with friends and families. Eating dinner outside on our porches or decks watching the sun go down and the stars come out. We can relax, which is such a wonderful thing. And hopefully all of you can take a deep breath, relax, and know that all of the hard work you have done has paid off and your residents are safe and healthy.

In Memoriam

I received the sad news that Mariann Zenitz Jones, passed away on May 6, 2022. Mariann had over 20 years in assisted living (with many more years prior in the Hospitality fields) and was the Executive Director for the Susan Bailis Assisted Living Community, for over 10 years. Mariann’s expert understanding of every facet of complex affordable housing, LGBTQ+ Friendly Housing and her ability to balance critical relationships with city and state officials placed her in a category of knowledge and execution that is extremely rare. In every way, Mariann was one in a million.

I personally knew Mariann for all 7 years that I have worked with Mass-ALA, and in that time I got to know Mariann and see for myself what an incredibly smart, caring, and compassionate woman she was. When she would call me our phone calls would always run long as we would get caught up on families and adventures we would have or just laugh at the silliness of life. I will truly miss her. I hope you will share in my sincere condolences to her family and her HallKeen Management family at her untimely passing. Rest in Peace Mariann, thank you for all you did for your residents and assisted living.

Mass-ALA Educational Trainings and Events

Remember to check out our events [page](#) to see all of the exciting events and educational trainings that we have planned for this year. Upcoming events are:

- On July 7, we will be holding a Member Connections virtual meeting from 9:15 – 10:30 a.m. These meetings are proving to be very informative for all of us at Mass-ALA and for all attendees. It gives everyone an opportunity to check-in and ask those questions that need answers. Plus, it is a great opportunity to meet and talk with others in assisted living. Here is the registration [link](#).
- Our fourth, popular, always sold-out, Boot Camp is scheduled for July 21 – to register click [here](#)

Be sure to log-in when you register for these events so you will receive the member discounts. If you need to know what your username and password are, please contact me at mchamberlin@mass-ala.org or 781-622-5999, ext. 110.

TIME TO CELEBRATE! - Our annual Excellence Awards dinner, our first in-person event of 2022, is scheduled for July 26 at the Double Tree in Westborough. It will start at 4:30 with a welcome reception and will end at 8:30. Due to COVID protocols we can only have 300 total in attendance. Please don't wait to register, we are getting close to that number now. For more information, please go [here](#)

Also, Mass-ALA will be monitoring the COVID-19 status in Massachusetts, and we are requiring of everyone attending the dinner that they provide the following information:

- A signed waiver and acknowledgement of Personal Responsibility
- Proof of full vaccination (defined as both vaccination and booster[s] against COVID-19), or proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken **no more than 24 hours** prior to the event
- A commitment to wearing a mask when not eating or drinking.

This policy is based on guidance and recommendations from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs (EOEA), the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE), the New England Society of Association Executives (NE/SAE) and the Federal Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and to be in compliance with local or state mandates.

Mass-ALA Business Partners Updates

Mass- ALA has 70 current local, state, and national business that are members of our association. I recently received some information from a long time Mass-ALA Business Partner, **2Sisters Senior Living Advisors** that I think you will find of interest. 2Sisters Senior Living Advisors is a local, family-owned, senior living referral and care consultation service, helping families navigate senior living and care options in Massachusetts. I recently received their newsletter and read this great, article by Michelle Woodbrey, Co-Founder, Senior Care Consultant, about putting together a “**just in case bag**” if you or a family member or friend has to unexpectedly stay in the hospital. The article is called *What's in your Hospital-Go-Bag*, which you can read [here](#). I have already started my bag and have put in two all-important, phone chargers, 😊.

I am hoping that this will be a continuing section of my quarterly membership column. Our Business Partners are awesome and have some great advice and ideas that they can share with you.

Assisted Living Communities' Updates

This is always the best part of my article. I ask for photos of the fun things going on at your communities and many communities very graciously love to send me photos of what is going on at their communities. This quarter I received several Mother's Day and Memorial Day photos. Thanks to everyone who sent them in

The Residence at Watertown Square sent in some wonderful photos from their Mother's Day celebration.



Bridges by EPOCH Mashpee Sent in some wonderful pictures of some of their residents who are veterans of the armed services and some current members of different branches of the military. The first photo is wonderful to see the different generations who have served and are serving. The last photo is of a gentleman at this community who received flowers on Mothers' Day. It is great that *everyone* who helped raise children received thanks and some beauty.



Mary Ann Morse at Heritage sent in a photo of their veteran residents as they watched a flag raising ceremony.



Maplewood at Weston shared these wonderful pictures of a Mother's Day Tea and their Memorial Day celebration.



Thank you to those who sent in photos and to all of their residents who served, thank you for your service.

NOTE – if your community is planning any fun events in the future, for your residents, **PLEASE, PLEASE** be sure to send me photos and a short description of these celebrations so I can feature you in the next edition of The Voice. Fourth of July is coming as are trips for yummy seafood, or to outdoor concerts or just sitting in a rocking chair on the porch. As always, be sure to send me photos that have been approved by the residents and/or their families, for publication.

New Members

WELCOME to our newest Business Partner, they are:

- ❖ **The Architectural Team** - Since 1971, The Architectural Team, Inc. (TAT), has been recognized for its thought leadership and diverse portfolio of acclaimed design solutions. The 95+ person firm has earned more than 200 awards for design excellence across a broad range of building types and programs, including new construction of large-scale urban mixed-use developments, multifamily, commercial, waterfront and hospitality developments, assisted and senior living facilities, and community centers. For more information, please click [here](#).

WELCOME to our new member! We are excited to have you as a part of the Mass-ALA community!

Mass-ALA has a Helpline and a Career Center

I wanted to remind you of two important **member benefits**:

- The first benefit is the **Mass-ALA HelpLine** to help you with those questions that pop-up about regulations or procedures at your community. You can reach the HelpLine by calling Mass-ALA at 781-622-5999 x103 and talking with our Director of Education, Laurie Cashman, or via email at lcashman@mass-ala.org or you can feel free to reach out to me at mchamberlin@mass-ala.org or 781-622-5999, ext. 110.
- The second member benefit is our **Job Board**, which can be found on the Members Only page of our website. Once you have logged in, click on the Career Center link at the top of the page and follow the directions to post a job at your community. If you need assistance with logging in or posting your job, give me a call at 781-622-5999, ext. 110. All jobs that are posted on our Job Board can be viewed by all job seekers by simply going to our website and clicking on Career Search at the top of the home page on our website, mass-ala.org.

As always, all of us at Mass-ALA thank you for all you do and your membership with Mass-ALA.