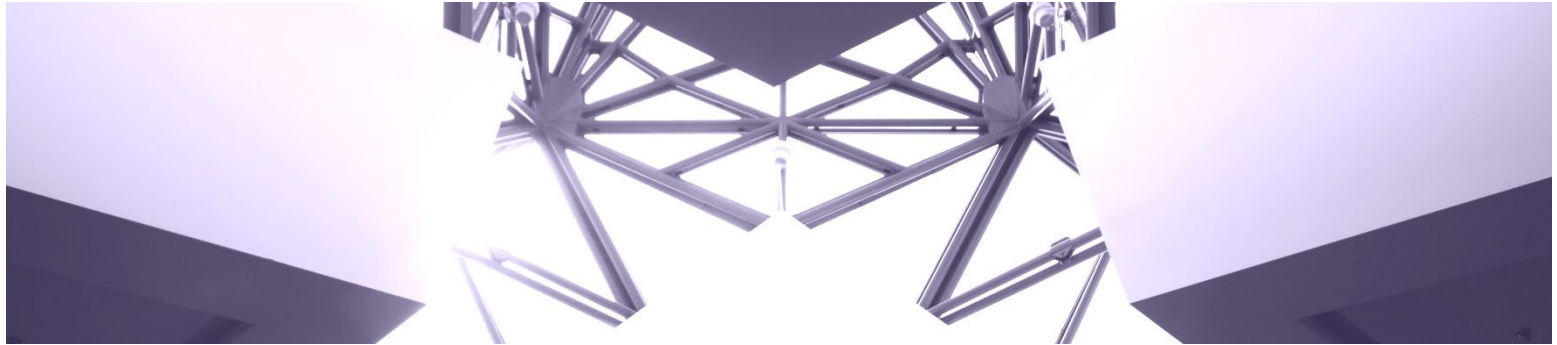


RMA MAINE CHAPTER



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Earlier this month, CEOs from eight of the top US banks testified before the Senate Banking Committee with some remarking that an economic slowdown was possible due to the leveling off of consumer spending and the potential for increased interest rates. This is concerning, especially with a potential government shutdown in 2024 if Congress is unable to pass a long-term spending bill in March.

As bankers, we understand what this could mean for our balance sheets, our portfolios, and our communities. The RMA Maine Chapter is dedicated to continuing to provide meaningful

content offerings to our members from our Fall Membership Breakfast with Gerard Cassidy to our highly attended Lending School and our annual Credit Analyst Roundtable.

Furthermore, we believe the merger between the national Risk Management Association and BAI (Bank Administration Institute) into ProSight Financial Association will further our offerings. The merger will unite the complementary offerings of each organization, preserve RMA and BAI's common mission and consistent values, and build on the loyalty of their members and customers. The strategic combination will make a meaningful difference and allow the RMA Maine Chapter to continue to the worthwhile content you deserve.

-Chapter President, Will Hygh

BOARD MEMBERS

President: Will Hygh, Kennebunk Savings Bank

Vice President: Lance Nunley, Gorham Savings Bank

Treasurer: Gail Sarrazin, Androscoggin Bank

Board Members:

Jenn Sirois, Maine Community Bank

James Perkolidis, Bath Savings Institution

Alex Lopes, Bangor Savings Bank

Crystal Lambert, Partners Bank

Amanda Elliston, Partners Bank

Ian Pullen, Norway Savings Bank

Holly Pepin, Norway Savings Bank

William Ross, TD Bank

Tanner Adams, Chase Bank

Alec Cone, Maine Community Bank

Jessica D'Ottavio, TD Bank

Matthew Buonopane, Androscoggin Bank

Volume 95.0
Fall/Winter 2023

IN THIS ISSUE

President's Corner	1
Chapter Board Members.....	1
Article	2
Chapter Officers.....	3
2024 Calendar of Events	2
RMA Training	3

Young Professionals	3
Recent Chapter Events.....	3
Scholarship Committee.....	3
RMAHQ Updates	4
Member Spotlight.....	4

Managing ESG Risk, Now and Into the Future

By Michael Sadowski – October/November 2023 *RMA Journal*

Just as consumer and corporate decisions are increasingly influenced by social and environmental concerns, financial institutions are enhancing their ability to approach risks and opportunities related to environmental, social, and governance (ESG) issues.

Panelists discussed progress in some areas and remaining uncertainty in others at an event titled “The Financial Risks of ESG: Pricing and Managing Environmental, Social, and Governance Risks,” hosted by RMA’s New York chapter.

Even for experts, it can be a learn as-you go process. “One of my bosses used to say, when we were embarking on a major initiative and we didn’t quite know how we were going to accomplish it, ‘We cross the river by feeling the stones with our bare feet,’” said David Belmont, a chapter board member and the panel’s moderator. “And you adjust as you go.”

When it comes to ESG, said Brittany Schmidt, a partner at PwC and the company’s U.S. sustainability and climate change leader for financial services, verifying and quantifying ESG metrics can be an inexact science. Not all the ESG data a company releases can be trusted because it’s often not independently audited. It can also be more steeped in history than current performance.

“If risk managers are looking at only what’s been done in the past and the stresses that have already been experienced, then we are missing the ball,” she said. “The name of the game with this topic is to think about the things that haven’t happened and to try to gameplay out what might occur.”

Read the entire article in the October/November 2023 edition of the RMA Journal.

<https://www.rmahq.org/the-rma-journal/current-issue/>

2023-2024 MAINE CHAPTER OFFICERS



Will Hygh,
President



Lance Nunley,
Vice President



Gail Sarrazin,
Treasurer

2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 15, 2024 – Credit Analyst Roundtable from 9:00am-11:30am at Maine Community Bank in Westbrook. Please RSVP to Jaimie Drew (jdrew@mainebankers.com) and include one or two topics you would like to discuss.

Spring Date TBD – Commercial Lending School instructed by Phil Hatch, President, Commercial Credit Training Services. Training will be held in Westbrook at Maine Community Bank.

Spring Date TBD – Annual Spring Membership Legislative Update with Maine Bankers Association. More details coming soon.

Spring Date TBD – RMA Maine Chapter Annual Meeting & Presentation. More details coming soon.

RMA TRAINING

RMA's Virtual Courses

The financial services industry is constantly growing and changing, and so are the risks it faces.

Based on deep industry knowledge from the banking experts who make up RMA's membership, RMA's courses give you the expertise you need to stay ahead.

Register on our new training portal, RMA Ignite, to get started.

https://learning.rmaignite.com/Saba/Web_spf/NA10P1PRD074/guestapp/home

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

"Greetings from the RMA Young Professionals Group,

The group would like to thank Lance Nunley for his work as the Chair over the past year. Lance brought the group together to organize another successful annual golf event at Toddy Brook Golf Course this past summer. The group has announced new leadership with myself serving as Chair and Nathan Henry serving as Vice Chair. The team is busy brainstorming ideas for lunch and learn events as we hope to bring these back in 2024 and, of course, planning the signature annual golf tournament in early summer. Please stay tuned, we hope to share updates on these events soon. We are excited to make the most of the coming year and contributing to the RMA Maine Chapter.

Have a great rest of the winter,

Liam Benson

RECENT CHAPTER EVENTS

26th Annual Gerard Cassidy Banking Outlook held on November 1, 2023:

The event was held at the DoubleTree in South Portland and was well attended. Slides from the presentation were distributed to attendees.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The RMA Maine Chapter will be accepting applications as early as February 2024 for a \$3,500 Academic Scholarship to be awarded to an eligible candidate for the fall semester.

Applications are reviewed by the scholarship committee established by the Maine Chapter, and final decision will be voted on by the Maine Chapter's board of directors. The scholarship will be awarded to an individual based on academic record, leadership, personal statement, and participation in school and community activities.

Applications can be found through the following link:

[2024 Scholarship Application](#)

RMA UPDATES

[RMA's Governance, Compliance, and Operational Resiliency \(GCOR\) XVIII Virtual Conference](#)

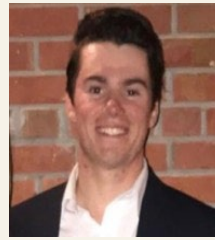
Join us virtually on June 18-21, 2024

In today's rapidly changing world, managing operational risk is a necessity not an option. As your professional association, RMA takes great pride in developing practical, thoughtful, and timely programs designed to enhance your skills and increase your value to your institution. GCOR is the only governance, compliance, and operational resiliency conference developed by the industry, for the industry.

[Register Now](#)

For inquiries into our all-access institutional pricing, contact your [Relationship Manager](#)

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Liam Benson,
Credit Analyst II



Why did you choose banking as a career?

I had interned with Androscooggin Bank for a couple of summers in college and the folks I met throughout my time there made a lasting positive impact. It was really during my senior year in college that it was clear I wanted to get into community banking after completing a capstone project on a community bank in Mississippi. Meeting with the senior management and seeing the thoughtfulness of the impact they made on their community meant a great deal to me. Diving into the numbers as a credit analyst in the day-to-day work can be fun as well!

What year did you join the RMA Maine Chapter Board and/or YP Board?

I joined the YP Board in April of 2021, shortly after transitioning to the commercial credit department.

What was your most memorable / impactful RMA event?

The Gerard Cassidy Banking Outlook events have been very interesting to attend each year, learning about the forecasted data for the banking sector and the economy.

KEEP IN TOUCH



(Chapter profile Link)



(Chapter LinkedIn page Link)



(Chapter Twitter handle)



(Chapter website link)