

MAR Structural Changes, Barbara Osborne, MAR Director & Structural Audit Committee Member

I am one of three state directors that represents you at MAR... With Maureen McFarland, Debbie Dwyer and Church Davis as alternate. At our September state Board Meeting, we voted to approve a new governance structure for the state association.

This change started way back in 2012 when MAR created their last Strategic Plan. A Structural Audit Task force was created to examine the policies and structure of MAR. They looked at ways to simplify the decision-making process, use volunteer time more wisely and empower the staff to address emerging needs.

Our AE Sandy Carroll served for two years to bring the Berkshire perspective as well as her AE perspective on behalf of all other Boards - and then I was appointed this year to re-examine the final proposal to include a larger board of directors and more opportunities for volunteers to serve.

The state board will go from 125 Directors to 77 and they created a leadership development team to recruit and train their Directors and Executive Committee. We also reworked standing committees and added outreach to the local associations.

The Directors will also consider a motion to approve the new composition of the 2017 Leadership Development Committee (LDC). Over the course of 2017, the LDC will recruit and train leaders and volunteers for future committees and leadership roles in the new structure. The new structure will commence on January 1, 2018.

We're fortunate to have Anne Meczywor as the state Secretary/Treasurer for another year, and she has declared that she is running for President Elect next year. Now is the perfect time if you'd like to get involved with the State Association on committees, task forces or as a Board Member.

Just let the Board Office staff know and they will pass it along!

[Full History of the Change and Details about the new Structure](#)

