Letter from the Editor

It has been a pleasure serving you the past six months as both editor of the Old Dominion Surveyor (ODS) and Second Vice President.

The Board just wrapped up a very productive regional quarterly board meeting hosted by the Western Chapter this past weekend, June 23rd and 24th, at the Holiday Inn Tanglewood in Roanoke, Virginia. On Friday, an all-day eight hour seminar “The Complete Professional” was divided into three separate topics presented by Marvin Miller (Ethics and Personal Branding), John Palatiello (21st Century Marketing of Professional Surveying Services) and our own illustrative Steve Douty (Workforce Development and Public Relations). The seminar received rave reviews over the network dinner which followed at the 419 West restaurant. I would like to thank Chapter President Matthew Mosteller and the entire Western Chapter for their hospitality and diligent work in planning and hosting an extremely successful event.

One of the items discussed at the Board Meeting on Saturday, that we wish to highlight, is the introduction of a new membership category, “Technical Member.” Membership Committee Chairperson, Vickie McEntire Anglin, made a motion out of committee at our Fall Board meeting last year in Lynchburg, Virginia to add this category to bridge the gap between student and associate membership. The new category was unanimously voted into the by-laws at our general membership meeting this past January in Herndon, Virginia. Information on Technical Membership is now available on the website at: http://www.vasurveyors.org/page/Membership. Please recruit those employees and colleagues within your firm/organization who may qualify as a Technical Member. This is truly an integral and grassroots way to promote our Workforce Development Initiative and mentorship at the Chapter level. Thank you and congratulations to Vickie for all her hard work to bring this to fruition.

We will once again be featuring our historical “Footprints” series in future digital issues. Please be on the lookout for these intriguing historical reads.

Lastly, we are always looking for new articles to publish and I welcome all of you to contact me directly with ideas or submissions. This is your newsletter.

Highest Regards,

Gary M. Faulhaber, LS, RLS
VAS Second Vice President
VAS Scholarships Available – Deadline Extended to July 5!
The VAS Education Trust offers several scholarships to help offset the various costs of surveyor-related education. Due to the holiday, the deadline for scholarship applications has been extended until July 5, 2017.

VAS Education Trust Scholarship
The VAS Educational Trust Scholarship is available to individuals who are residents of the Commonwealth of Virginia and are pursuing a career in land surveying with the intention of practicing land surveying in Virginia. The scholarship application shall include a completed application, transcript of grades and an evaluation form from a professor or teacher. Application Professor/teacher evaluation form

"John Foster School" Grant
The purpose of the school is to prepare individuals who are pursuing a career as a professional land surveyor in the Commonwealth of Virginia and wish to sit for the licensing exam. A limited number of grants are made available based on each individual student's financial need. A grant application is required to be completed by the individual who desires to attend the "John Foster School." The amount of an individual grant is determined by members of the Educational Trust after a careful review of all of the grant applications submitted, the total number of grants approved, and the total amount of scholarship monies available for dispersal each year. Application Professor/teacher evaluation form

Virginia Surveyors Foundation, LTD Scholarship: John Foster Memorial Scholarship
All applicants will be considered, however, Virginia residents or applicants who plan on practicing in Virginia will have priority over other applicants. All applicants should state clearly and concisely why they should be considered for a Virginia Surveyors Foundation scholarship. Application Professor/teacher evaluation form

New Member Category – Technical Member
The VAS Board of Directors has voted to include a new member category. A Technical Member is an individual who has worked under the supervision of a Licensed Surveyor for a minimum of two years with the intent of making a career in the field of Land Surveying. A Technical Member shall have no vote in the business of the Association. Each application shall be reviewed by the Board. Membership as a Technical Member is available only to those not otherwise covered under Student or Associate membership qualifications. Annual dues for a Technical Member are $35.

If You Receive a Bid Request...
The Code of Virginia (Sections 2.2-4301 and 2.2-4302.A.4) requires government agencies -- state, county and municipal -- to procure land surveying as a professional service, with competition based on qualifications, not price. VAS has learned that requests for proposals (RFPs) have recently been issued that were not compliance with the law. There is one report that a locality recently notified a firm it was not selected at it was not the "cheapest". If you receive RFPs that request bids, rather than using the "mini-Brooks Act" qualifications based selection (QBS) process required by Virginia law, please send the RFP to the VAS office so the association can seek corrective action. No individual or firm names will be revealed. VAS can help uphold professionalism in the Commonwealth!

Licensing Board Newsletter
Keep up to date on the latest information from the licensing board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers, and Landscape Architects for Virginia. Click here for the summer edition of the APELSCIDLA Dimensions newsletter.

Land Surveyor B License Prep
VAS, in cooperation with Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), is offering an online course over a 16-week
period through the beginning of 2018, for two hours, twice weekly. It is ideal for land surveyors working toward achieving their Land Surveyor B License. The course is designed to provide a refresh on subjects including Erosion Control, Storm Drainage Systems, Land Planning and Design, Sanitary Sewer, Water Line Extensions and Federal/State/Local Standards for applying the various procedures and practices required for the Land Surveyor B exam. For general questions, call the VAS office at (844) 414-1466. For class-specific questions, email Chip Richardson at: crichardson@accumark.us. A notice to members and registration will be coming soon.

**Preparation for the FS/PS State Exams**

Are you or someone you know preparing to take the FS or PS state exams? Then don't miss the John Foster School Prep Class! This four-day school features two distinct separate courses of study and review to prepare you for the "Fundamentals of Surveying" (FS) and "Principals & Practice of Surveying" (PS) state exams. Please pass this information along to anyone you may know who is preparing for these exams. [Scholarships are available!]

**John Foster School**  
**Date: July 25-28, 2017**  
**Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA**  
[Register Now]

For all information on course topics, overnight accommodations, and more, click here. Scholarships are available for those seeking financial assistance. Application information for the John Foster Grant, can be found here.

**VAS Promotes Workforce Development to Educators**

The Virginia Association of Surveyors (VAS) promoted a career in surveyors to teachers, principals, administrators and counselors who advise middle and high schools students. VAS was one of a select few employer groups invited to participate in an "Experience Works — Work-Based Learning Conference" this past Tuesday in Richmond, VA. The invitation to VAS from the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education of the Virginia Department of Education was one of many engagements to attract the next generation of surveyors that resulted in VAS submitting the NSPS model letter on workforce development. Pictured here is Stephen Letchford, LS, a member of the VAS Board of Directors with an educator who visited the VAS exhibit.

**Upcoming Events**

Be sure to keep up to date with upcoming VAS and VAS Chapter events by visiting the calendar on the website.

**July 25-28, 2017:** **John Foster School**, Richmond, VA  
This four-day school features two distinct separate courses of study and review to prepare you for the “Fundamentals of Surveying” (FS) and “Principals & Practice of Surveying” (PS) state exams.

**September 15-16, 2017:** **Mount Vernon Chapter Seminar**, Woodbridge, VA  
Morning Session: Surveys in Tidal Areas; Instructor: Ben Stagg  
Afternoon Session: Surveying & GIS; Instructors: Howard S. Hodder, Jr. & Matthew D. Warner

**January 18-20, 2018:** **2018 VAS Annual Convention**, Staunton, VA
**VAS Apparel**
VAS is pleased to work with Land’s End to provide you an opportunity to purchase quality clothing with the VAS logo embroidered on it. Go on, showcase your membership in VAS. To start shopping and place your order, click [here](#).

**VAS Career Center**
VAS now offers you a way to connect you to the right employee or employer!

**POST A JOB** - Looking to fill a position at your firm/company? [Post a job](#) on the VAS Career Center and let qualified applicants apply. Job postings are $25 per ad.

**FIND A JOB** - Looking for a new job in the surveying profession? [Peruse job listings](#) from VAS firms and apply for your new opportunity. Job searches are free to VAS members.