President’s Message

If your firm is like mine, the summer season has been particularly busy. The economy is definitely improving with a strong demand for surveying services. Given the recession we experienced, providing timely service and deliverables to our clients is a welcome challenge.

The summer has been busy for VAS as well. I had the honor of presiding over a productive summer meeting of the VAS Board in Roanoke. My appreciation to Matt Mosteller and his colleagues in the Western Chapter for hosting a great Summer Seminar and Board Meeting in June. Our seminar, *The Complete Professional*, presented by Marvin Miller, PLS, PPS, SP, RPP, CP of MRG GEO, with assistance from VAS Executive Director John Palatiello and VAS Past President Steve Douty, provided an outstanding tutorial on projecting a professional image, personal and firm marketing, client relations, ethics, and promotion of surveying as a rewarding profession career.

One of the issues discussed by the Board was changes in plat requirements of the Virginia Department of Health applicable to onsite sewage application expectations and requirements. I am pleased that Chip Richardson has agreed to represent VAS, working with the APELCIDDLA Board and Department of Health regarding this issue.

In recent months, we’ve been hearing a lot about “workforce development” and I’ve been inspired and motivated by the efforts of fellow surveyors in Virginia and other states. In order to do my part to attract the next generation of professionals and technicians to a career in surveying, I opened a line of communication with the Workforce Center Manager of the Piedmont Workforce Network who oversees workforce development programs in Fauquier, Culpeper, Madison, Rappahannock and Orange counties. One model being reviewed is the Youth Works internship program implemented in Baltimore, MD by the Maryland Society of Surveyors and featured in the July issue of *P.O.B. magazine*. Grant dollars are currently earmarked for healthcare, manufacturing, business finance, and information technology, and the feasibility of a program for surveying in Central Virginia is being explored. I am also exploring opportunities with Lord Fairfax Community College and the Fauquier County Economic Development Office.

VAS has been working statewide with the Virginia Department of Education as a result of a letter the society sent the department last year. NSPS has a sample letter and link to local workforce boards that chapters or individual surveyors can use to begin a dialogue on programs in each local area in Virginia. Our experience is that such an introduction gets surveying “on the radar screen” and begins efforts to establish programs to make a career in surveying known to occupational counselors, young people, and others searching for careers. I respectfully urge all VAS members to get involved in their local community by sending the sample NSPS letter/email.

Promotion of surveying is a responsibility of all surveyors. Included in that is recruitment of new members in VAS. There are membership categories for individuals in various stages of their surveying career, from students to technicians to fully licensed professionals. The VAS Board implemented a Member-Get-A-Member campaign with an incentive for current members to recruit new members. If you are a current member and recruit a new VAS member, you'll earn a credit toward your next year's VAS and NSPS dues! The Member-Get-A-Member incentive is a 20% discount for recruiting each new regular voting member of VAS (5%
discount for associate members) not to exceed 100% (does not include chapter dues). Bring in five new members and you'll receive a full year's credit of your VAS and NSPS dues. The new recruits exclude newly licensed surveyors who have been contacted by VAS. Help keep the Virginia Association of Surveyors strong. Recruit members and save!

Another quality VAS continuing education seminar will be offered this week in Prince William County. The VAS Fall Seminar will be on Friday, September 15 at the Country Inn & Suites Woodbridge/Potomac Mills, just off I-95 in Prince William County. The seminar is in two parts. The morning will focus on Tidal Datums, while the afternoon features Improving the Accuracy of Your GIS - What's Good Enough? Learn about private/public property boundaries in Virginia related to tidal waters, as well as collecting data for GIS to meet clients' increasing expectations for higher standards to provide for better analysis. Click here for the additional seminar program information and registration, as well as information on golf, a networking dinner, hotel, and the meeting of the VAS Board of Directors. Click here for the program outline and registration. I hope to see you there.

Ed Dodd VAS President

**Virginia Surveyor Apprenticeship Program**
The Virginia Surveyor Apprenticeship Program (VSAP) is in need of an instructor this year (2017-2018) at Woodson High School in Fairfax. It’s a 32-week commitment (3 hrs every Thursday evening). They need an instructor for “Survey 3,” which is outlined on the attached curriculum. If you’re interested, please contact Joey Teets (jateets@fcps.edu) - who manages the program. This will be a very rewarding experience and you will be compensated for your efforts.

**Help Fellow Surveyors Affected by Hurricane Harvey and Irma**
The NSPS Foundation has a disaster relief fund to assist surveyors in times of need. Such an incident is those impacted by Hurricane Harvey in Texas and Louisiana as well as Hurricane Irma. To make a tax deductible charitable contribution click here

**APELSCIDLA Board Vacancy**
Charles F. "Chuck" Dunlap, a past president of VAS, has announced his resignation from the Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers and Landscape Architects (APELSCIDLA Board), the licensing board for land surveyors and other design professionals in Virginia, as he will be relocating to South Carolina. Seats on the APELSCIDLA Board are by appointment by the Governor. By tradition, the Governor of Virginia relies heavily on recommendations from the Virginia Association of Surveyors (VAS).

VAS is reaching out to its members to issue a call for candidates. If you desire to be appointed to the APELSCIDLA Board, and would like the endorsement of VAS, please send a statement of candidacy and curriculum vitae (CV) to John Palatiello Executive Director. All submittals to the VAS officers for their deliberations on endorsements.

**Fall Seminar**
A reminder, VAS is hosting its Fall Seminar on Friday, September 15 at the Country Inn & Suites Woodbridge/Potomac Mills, VA, beginning at 8:00 AM. It is one seminar in two parts -- Tidal Datums and GIS. Please register today.

Call the hotel's central reservation number at 1-800-830-5222 if you need a hotel room.
A networking dinner will be on Friday evening, September 15 at 7:00 PM at Smokey Bones Bar & Fire Grill, 2601 Prince William County Parkway, Woodbridge, VA. **To sign up for dinner, please email Tim Greenwood at MVC_VAS@outlook.com.**

A golf outing is scheduled for Friday, September 15 at 12:00 noon at **Montclair Country Club**, 16500 Edgewood Drive, Montclair, VA. The cost is $49 per person (includes box lunch). **To sign up for golf, please email Tom Venetsanos at Tomvenetsanos@gmx.com.**

The VAS Fall Board of Directors meeting will be on Saturday, September 16.

For seminar information, registration and further information on the hotel, golf and dinner, click here.

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

**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

**October 18, 2017-March 1, 2018: “B” License Prep Course, Online**
This course will be a 16 week course starting on October 18. Classes will be streamed through VCU's distance learning facilities. There will be two classes per week, with one class being a live presentation in which students will log into the class online.

**January 18-20 2018: VAS Annual Convention, Staunton, VA**
Registration opening soon!

**Virginia Technology and Engineering Education Association Conference**
A team from VAS participated in the 2017 Virginia Technology and Engineering Education Association (VTEEA) Summer Conference in Norfolk in July, hosted by Old Dominion University in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Education (VDE). Michael Starling, Robert Mann, Patrick McManus, Scott Williamson, Randy Stowers and John Keilman instructed Virginia high school teachers and administrators with a classroom session and outdoors field demonstrations on how to use surveying equipment so that they, in turn, can teach high school students during the coming school year. The 2-week surveying program is a new addition to the VDE Construction Technology program.

**Send Your News**

- Have you recently completed a project using ingenious, inventive or innovative methods that you wish to share with your colleagues?

- Do you wish to recognize a senior surveyor in your chapter who has contributed exponentially to our land surveying profession?

- Is your chapter planning an upcoming networking event or seminar that your colleagues would find fun and educational?
Old Dominion Surveyor wants to hear from you. News, articles and feature stories of interest to surveyors across Virginia are welcome additions to the VAS newsletter. Send your news to ODS editor and VAS 2nd Vice President Gary Faulhaber at gfaulhaber@bowmanconsulting.com

VAS Staff

The VAS association management firm, John M. Palatiello & Associates, Inc., (JMP&A) has had some recent staff changes. Pictured (l-r) is your VAS staff team John Palatiello Executive Director, Khea Adams Education & Events, Ebonique Ellis Marketing & Communications, Debbie Birtwistle Finance & Accounting, Sally Palatiello Meeting Planner, John Byrd (JB) Government Affairs

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.