DIRECTOR’S REPORT
TENNESSEE

The Tennessee Association of Professional Surveyors (TAPS) once again enjoyed another year without any negative interference from our legislature. We love those years when things are quiet.

TAPS had their annual meeting in March. Just prior to and during the three day meeting we were able to raise $22,000 to add to our PAC fund. This was done mostly through private phone calls and private contributions. We set up a Platinum, Gold, Silver etc scale with large signs at our booth in the exhibit hall. Each person’s name with the contributed amount is added as contributions are made. Much like the Jefferson Club, there is always that group we can rely on for generous giving. Many of the vendors are more than happy to give. We also sold basketball brackets at $20 each.

Through lack of participation, we did not have a Capital Hill day this year. We are however gearing up to sponsor some legislation in the next year. We all know about the fifth amendment to the U.S. Constitution. There are many counties in our state that seem to not know it exists. For the privilege to record a plat of subdivision, many Planners in Tennessee require “giving off” additional right of way for the public road. I have “given off” as much as a 35 foot strip on some of the most valuable commercial property in Chattanooga. Because of a law suit, the city no longer has the requirement. This, these municipalities are doing without compensation. TAPS is fairly certain we can’t win a fight with the municipal league. They are a strong lobby. We are going to introduce legislation to end the practice but allow a reservation for future use. We think this is a compromise that will be acceptable.

Our CFS program is still up and running. Our class last fall had a disappointing pass rate. Only 18 people (I believe) passed the course. The rate was 48%, but ordinarily, the pass rate hovers around 50%. Our first year, the pass rate was 76%. We are getting excellent feed back from the general TAPS membership about the certification program.

Respectfully Submitted,
C. Barton (Bart) Crattie, LS, CFS, CFM