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Email: greg.perkins@leicaus.com
Tommy Nichols  ■  757-617-2986
Email: tommy.nichols@leicaus.com
visit www.leica-geosystems.us/right-time
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

F all is now upon us. Looking out my office window at the picturesque fall foliage, as a surveyor, I am glad to know the summer heat is over. It comes as no surprise that this continues to be a busy season with end-of-year projects at work, convention planning, and the holidays right around the corner. The planning of our Annual Convention is in full swing with Chip Richardson arranging a good line-up of seminars and Will Nash planning something different for us after the banquet—Casino Night.

One of the Association’s signature events during the convention is the presentation of donation checks to various higher education groups. A portion of this money comes from members’ donations. From my personal experience of watching these education groups work, I can see that our donations provide very helpful class materials that the students may not otherwise get. It doesn’t take a sizable donation from any one member —smaller collective donations make all the difference.

Our quarterly board meetings held around the state are a good source of information and a useful platform for coming together with fellow members. They usually last about three hours with each committee chair giving their reports and new information being shared and discussed. Any member, with notice, can ask to be put on the agenda and bring issues to the board’s attention at these meetings. This is the forum to protect and promote our profession. I urge you to attend any locally scheduled meetings.

I will end by wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable fall, a warm holiday season, and I look forward to seeing you in Williamsburg in January.

EDITOR’S NOTE

T his is my last note as editor of The Old Dominion Surveyor and I’d like to say that I’ve enjoyed working with Judy on the magazine and that we’ve had some pretty interesting articles this year. Thanks to all of you that have provided articles to the magazine and I look forward to the next edition. We are coming to the close of 2011 and I can say that it has been a trying year for many of us in the survey profession. Good luck to us all as we head into the new year and good luck to the incoming officers of the VAS.

John Tyler Community College
Spring Semester Surveying and Related Courses

CIV 171 Surveying 1
Tuesday 6:30 PM - 8:45 PM & Saturday 9:00 AM 11:45 AM
Introduces surveying equipment, procedures and computations including adjustment of instruments, distance measurement, leveling angle measurement, traversing, traverse adjustments, area computations and introduction to topography.

ARC 221 -01A Architectural CAD Applications Software – Course Content
AutoCAD Architecture 2012
Monday 3:00 PM -4:50 PM Chester Campus

ARC 211 -71A Computer Aided Drafting Applications – Course Content
Revit Architecture 2012
Wednesday 6:00 PM – 9:45 PM Chester Campus

see JTCC, page14
When I’m 64
Will Nash, Convention Committee Chairman

I won’t make you endure any more verses from the Beatles’ song that gave the inspiration for the theme of this year’s convention. The fact that this is the 64th Annual Meeting of the Virginia Association of Surveyors is significant in that, just like the Beatles, we have had a lot of hits, we’ve not always gotten along with each other and we always sound like professionals. The leadership at VAS is very thankful to all who have supported us both as members and as convention attendees in recent years and we have endeavored this year to give the maximum value for your convention dollars.

You will see from the convention schedule included in this edition that the Saturday Luncheon has been deleted and all the presentations and officer inductions will take place at the Friday Banquet. Also since the annual ball has not gotten much attendance in recent years we will hold a Casino Night instead. We have a first rate vendor setting up our casino night with professional equipment and properly trained and attired dealers. You don’t really have to know what you are doing, they will help guide your faux gambling experience. For those that do know what they are doing or get very lucky there will be prizes to bid on with your winnings at the end.

Please make an effort to come out on Friday night and support your incoming officers and have a great time.

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2012 Silent Auction

We are doing the silent auction once again this year. We are looking for chapter donations and donations from individuals. You may bring the donation with you to the convention or, if you’re not planning on being at the convention, please get your donation to Judy Hite at the VAS office, 8752 Landmark Road, Richmond, VA 23228 by January 20, 2012.

Be creative, have some fun with it. A basket, a box, a gift card any item will be appreciated.

The auction will begin on Thursday afternoon, continue through the president’s reception, all day Friday, and will close at the last break of seminars on Friday afternoon. You must be there to pay for your item(s) and take the item(s) with you.

The proceeds from this auction goes to our Education Trust for scholarships.

2012 Spouse Program

Deanna Nash

Welcome to the 2012 VAS Spouse’s program! I am very excited about the program. We have had so many wonderful programs in the past that I have really had to rack my brain to find something unique and fun for us to do, especially in Williamsburg where the convention has been previously held. For the spouses that will be in early on Thursday, we will hit the Premium Outlets for some shopping followed by a scrumptious afternoon tea at the Williamsburg Inn. On Friday, we begin the day with a 9:30 tour of Bassett Hall—the Rockefellers residence while in Williamsburg. We will then tour the Dewitt Wallace and Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Museums followed by a short bus ride to the Williamsburg Winery for a tour, tasting and lunch. I hope to see you all in Williamsburg!
2012 Plat Contest

The Annual Plat Contest will be held during the 64nd Annual Convention and Meeting, to be held January 26-28, 2012 at the Williamsburg Lodge in Williamsburg, Virginia. The categories are the same as the 2011 ACSM/NSPS Plat Competition.

Entries may be machine or hand-drafted and have a maximum plat size of 34”x 44”. While each submission must be a single sheet drawing, the drawing may be part of a set. Entries must have been prepared within 30 months prior to the mailing deadline. All entries will be judged on adherence to the minimum standards as set forth by NSPS and VAS.

The judges will consider interpretability, content and layout of data shown, presentation, innovation, applicability to typical client or persons using this type of plat, and correctness. Neatness and accuracy of scale will also be considered. All plats must be signed and sealed with a label stating ‘FOR PLAT CONTEST USE ONLY’. Each plat must also be labeled with the name of the category in which it is being submitted. Contest winners will be announced at the Awards Banquet on Friday January 27th.

Plat Categories

- Subdivision Plats
- ALTA/ACSM Survey Maps
- Boundary/Cadastral Maps
- Topographical Maps
- Miscellaneous Maps

The first and second place winners in each category can also be entered in the NSPS Map/Plat Contest, which will require an additional fee of $30.00. First and Second place plaques will be awarded for each category.

Mail your entries to: Judy Hite, 8752 Landmark Road, Richmond, VA 23228.

Your entries for each firm or branch office must be received along with the entry fee of $35.00 (for one to six plats) by January 6, 2012.

Please make checks payable to: Virginia Association of Surveyors, Inc.

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NATIONWIDE COVERAGE

VAS Slate of Officers for 2012

President
W.E. “Will” Nash

I am sure most of you know about my 30+ years of surveying experience, my military career, and my family from reading these bios over the last six years. At this point I would just like to say that I hope you have been satisfied with the way in which I have discharged my duties up to now and have trust in me to take one more step to this organization’s chief executive office. The eight years I have spent on the VAS Board of Directors has been a great learning experience and I have come to know that none of us do this alone. This board works as a team and with the help of the Executive Secretary Judy Hite, the committee members, and VAS members at large, the business of the VAS is carried out as best as we know how. Thank you, everyone, for your support along the way and I have enjoyed serving at every level in this organization.

First Vice President
Bruce J. Frederick

Bruce Frederick is a Vice President and Regional Manager of the Norfolk and Newport News offices of Patton Harris Rust and Associates now Pennoni Associates. Bruce has been with PHR&A now Pennoni Associates for 23 years and was one of the first employees hired when the office opened in Virginia Beach.

Bruce got started in his surveying career with the City of Portsmouth where he worked summers between school semesters. Bruce obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree from the College of Bridgewater in Business Administration with an emphasis in economics.

Bruce was Region III Director in 2008, Secretary/Treasurer in 2010, and is currently Second Vice President and Editor of The Old Dominion Surveyor. Bruce was born and raised in the Tidewater area and currently resides in Chesapeake with wife Anne and daughter, Nicole.

Second Vice President
John Sehl

John is the President of Allison, Baird & Sehl, P.C. in Montross, Virginia. He started surveying in Minnesota in 1979 and has been surveying in Virginia since 1983. He was licensed in 1993 and became a member of the Rappahannock Chapter in 1995 and has held all offices in that chapter. John has also served a two-year term as Region II Director and is currently on the VAS Budget and Awards Committees as well as Secretary/Treasurer of the VAS. Born in Minnesota, John is one of fourteen children growing up on the family farm. He moved to Virginia in the early 80s to try and find work during that recession. John and his wife Donna have four children and currently reside in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Secretary/Treasurer
David R. Gardy

Dave has over 25 years of diversified professional and technical experience in the fields of land surveying and consulting engineering. A graduate of Virginia Tech, Gardy became registered as a Professional Land Surveyor in 1987 and has been involved in the principal management of diverse surveying programs since that time. He has been a member of the Virginia Association of Surveyors since 1990 and has served the Association at the state and local level. He has served the Central Chapter board, serving in all officer positions, and currently serves the state association in the capacity of Membership Committee Chairman. During his career, Gardy has served as principal manager on major projects for both the public and private sector as well as managing smaller projects, all the way down to single lot subdivisions. Mr. Gardy founded Gardy and Associates, Surveying and Mapping Services in 2009 and currently serves as President. Dave and his wife Marcia live in New Kent County, and along with their daughter, Katie, enjoy their life out in the country.
Secretary/Treasurer
Russell E. Nixon


In 2004, Russ and his wife started Nixon Land Surveying, LLC located in Lynchburg, Virginia. He has been a member of the VAS since 2004. He and Tanya have been married for 20 years and have three children—Lauren, Blake, and Amaya. The family enjoys attending church and being involved in ministries around the Lynchburg area. He and his wife and recently started fishing competitively with the Fishers of Men National Tournament Trail (Christian Fishing Circuit) competing against other teams. His biggest hobby is fishing.

Region II Director
Stuart Dunn

Stuart is President/Owner/Licensed Land Surveyor of Dunn Land Surveys, Inc. in Berryville, Clarke County. He has been surveying since 1989. He was licensed in 1994. He is also licensed in West Virginia. He became a member of the Association, the Bull Run and Shenandoah Chapters shortly after becoming self-employed in 1995. He has been president of the Bull Run Chapter. He has twice been president of the Shenandoah Chapter. He was born in Argentina. He has lived in Canada and since 1989 in the USA. He has a degree in Civil Engineering from the University of British Columbia. He lives with his wife Sarah and daughter Hilary outside of Berryville, in Clarke County.

Region II Director
Kevin Shreiner

Kevin is the Survey Director at Dominion Engineering & Design in Charlottesville. He has been in the surveying and engineering business for almost 30 years. Kevin was licensed in 2006, but has been a member of VAS since 2001. He obtained his FEMA CFM (Certified Floodplain Manager) certification in 2007. He was the former Vice President of the Bull Run Chapter before relocating to the Shenandoah Valley in 2008. He is a current active member of the Monticello Chapter and frequent participant at VAS Conventions and quarterly meetings. In addition, he has been an active member at NVBIA, PVBIA, SVBIA, and BRHBA. Kevin has recently started working with VAS education guru Chip Richardson in hopes of getting an opportunity to teach and work with up-and-coming professional land surveyors. Kevin is a proud 2005 graduate of the Surveyor’s Apprenticeship Program in Fairfax. Growing up in Pennsylvania, Kevin moved to Virginia on his 21st birthday and took a job at PHR&A in Fairfax doing ink on mylar handdrafting. He currently resides in Staunton with his wife Debbie.

Region IV Director
Chris J. Pappas

Chris is a licensed land surveyor in the states of Virginia and New Mexico. He holds a B.S. degree in Surveying from New Mexico State University and has been in the surveying business since 1992. Pappas is a member of the the National Society of Professional Surveyors (NSPS) and of the Virginia Association of Surveyors. A former president of the Western Chapter, he currently is Chairman of the Geocaching Committee and is the Educational Supplement Fund, Fund Raising Chairman.

He is presently Chief Operating Officer for the Blacksburg office of Green Forest Surveys and is GPS coordinator and implements company-wide CADD standards.

NSPS Governor
David Holland

David L. Holland, LS is the County Surveyor for Henrico County, Virginia and a licensed surveyor in the Commonwealth of Virginia. He holds a degree in Journalism from the University of Memphis and a degree in Surveying and Mapping from the Denver Institute of Technology.

see Page 12, Slate of Officers
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The Family

Rich Williams died on Labor Day, 2011 at the age of 61. He has been an active affiliate of the Virginia Association of Surveyors (VAS) for more than thirty years and his friendship, laughter, smile, knowledge, charisma and hard work will be deeply missed and mourned by many of us.

I often hear the questions: What does the VAS do for me? What do I get for my money? What do I have to offer the Association? Why should I join/renew/stay?

Rich’s funeral was held in Beaufort, South Carolina and attending the celebration of his life and supporting his family and one another required that we take two full work days from our lives. As I observed the attendees some observations were hard to ignore. President Pete Moore drove more than eight hours each way to represent our Association. Thank you, Pete. Curt Sumner, The Executive Director of ACSM/NSPS traveled the same distance to let the family know that the loss was felt and shared by surveyors on a national level. Thank you, Curt. Former business partners and competitors were in attendance as well as professional surveyors and photogrammetrists licensed in several states. All of these men and women were not there because it was a business obligation or for any personal gain. Everyone was there because we had lost a member of our family. We had lost a brother and wanted to let the members of his imitate family know that we felt and shared some of their pain and loss. We were there because in our own time of personal loss we wanted to be with our “family”.

Every year we begin our annual meeting by reading resolutions in memory of our members that have died during the intervening year. This year will be an exceptional year because of the large number of friends that have died. This part of our business meeting is not about our business. It is not about numbers or law or equipment or disagreements. It is about the loss of men and women who have shared a common goal, a common set of values, a common desire to serve the public and a common love of our profession. It is about the loss of family members. It is about the love that grows out of respect and working together and sharing of the things that make us more than just professionals.

Why am I a member of the Virginia Association of Surveyors? Because, I cannot think of a family that I would be more honored to belong to.

Action Update on Unified Organization

Bill Coleman, PLS, GISP, NSPS President

It has been seven weeks since the ACSM Congress voted to disband and the NSPS began the process to create a new “unified organization” that would represent the broad definition of the “Professional Surveyor” Many of you have asked if anything has been done to begin this process.

Let me tell you what has been accomplished and what goals have been set.

1. A Strategic Planning Committee has been appointed to conduct a financial analysis of our existing organizations and make recommendations for new membership categories and rates within the new organization. The committee is comprised of representatives from all of the member organizations and chaired by Pat Smith (TX), Chair of the NSPS Board of Governors. This committee has been asked to complete its mission by the end of September to enable a budget to be prepared and dues notices for next year to be mailed.

2. The combined Membership Committee/Member Benefits Committee/Public Relations Committee has been directed to review all of the current benefits being offered to the membership to determine the perceived value of these benefits. They are to recommend what benefits should continue, what needs to be modified or discarded, or new benefits that need to be added. They too have been asked to complete their study by the end of September.

3. Executive Director Curt Sumner and staff had a preliminary discussion with our accounting firm of Gelman, Rosenberg, and Freedman to discuss the financial impacts of our reorganization and the reporting to the IRS.

4. The NSPS Executive Committee has directed Executive Director Sumner to request a proposal from the law firm of Weinberg, Jacobs, and Tolani for legal services related to the combining of the affected organizations.

5. The NSPS Executive Committee is waiting for the final financials from the Survey Summit to determine what financial steps will be necessary to complete the current fiscal year and plan the 2012 budget.

Work is progressing. We are working at a deliberate pace as we proceed. There are still many things to do before we can complete our objective and we do not want to blindly plunge headlong into the unknown.

We have started the journey to a new organization where we want all professional surveyors to be a member. We ask for your continued support.
2012 Preliminary Convention Program
64th Annual VAS Meeting and Convention

Thursday, January 26, 2012

7:30am to 8:00am – Technical Sessions I & II Sign-in Desk – Tidewater Room
8:00am to 12:00 noon - Technical Session I – Tidewater Room
8:30am to 3:00pm – Spouse Program – Meet in hotel lobby
10:00am to 4:00 pm – Exam Writing Committee – Patriot Room
12:00 noon to 1:00pm - Lunch for Tech Sessions I&II Registrants & board members – Lodge Dinning Room (must have ticket)
1:00pm to 5:00pm – Technical Session II – Tidewater Room
1:00pm to 5:00pm - Convention Registration – Colony Room
1:00pm to 5:00pm - Board of Directors Meeting – Allegheny Room A&B
3:00pm to 4:00 pm - Affiliates Meeting – Colony Room
3:30pm to 4:30pm – ETSU, Northern Virginia Apprenticeship Program, and other Educational Institutions Meeting – Hospitality Suite
5:30pm to 7:00pm - Exhibit Hall Opens with President’s Reception – Colony Room
7:00pm to 9:00pm - Reception hosted by Leica Geosystems - Room TBD

Friday, January 27, 2012

7:30am to 4:00pm - Convention Registration – Colony Room
7:30am to 5:00pm - Exhibit Hall Open – Colony Room (breaks and lunch in exhibit hall)
7:30am to 8:00am – Technical Session III & IV- Sign-in Desk – TBD
8:00am to 5:00pm - Tech Session III – Allegheny Room
8:00am to 5:00pm - Tech Session IV- (Kris Kline) Tidewater Room
8:30am to 3:00pm - Spouses Program – meet in hotel lobby
12:00 noon to 1:30pm - Lunch for Tech Sessions III & IV Registrants and Affiliates – Colony Room
12:00 noon to 1:30pm - Foundation Meeting and Lunch – Piedmont Room AB
3:30pm to 4:30pm - VAS Auxiliary Meeting – TBD
6:00pm to 7:00pm – Social Hour prior to Banquet – Virginia Royer
7:00pm to 9:00pm – Awards Banquet – Virginia Room DEF installation of officers and plat contest awards
9:00pm to 12:00midnight – Casino Night – Virginia Room DEF (open bar)

Saturday, January 28, 2012

9:00am to 11:00am - Annual General Membership Meeting – Colony Room ABCD

Slate of Officers, continued from page 9

David is a Past President of the Virginia Association of Surveyors. He is also a member of the advisory board and an adjunct faculty member for the School of Engineering and Technology at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College in Richmond.
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2012 Convention Technical Sessions

Bill Gilliland, ActionCoach, Staunton, Virginia

Course Objectives: Learn how to create a practical 90-day plan. By planning on a day to day basis, it becomes possible to know which direction to orient efforts so the owner and the business arrive at the intended destination. This new sense of focus and clarity makes it easier to make decisions to profitably grow any business.

Topics to be covered include: A review of your specific business; A thorough situational analysis; Redefining your business vision; A detailed gap analysis; Setting SMART goals; and Building your 90 day plan.

Tech Session II: “Modernization of the National Spatial Reference System”
David Doyle, NOAA, Maryland.

During the next decade, enhancements and additions to the network of Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) including; the U.S. Global Positioning System, Russian GLONASS, European Union GALILEO and China’s COMPASS will significantly improve the use of space-based positioning systems for surveying, mapping, charting, navigation and numerous other applications. In order to meet the anticipated demands for an improved geospatial framework that these developments will require, the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) is implementing a plan for the modernization of the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS). One of the significant elements of this plan calls for the adoption of an entirely new reference system with updated geometric (horizontal) and gravimetric (vertical) realizations that will replace the North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) and the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88). This new reference system will be defined to be more closely aligned to the International Terrestrial Reference Frame (ITRF) with heights based exclusively on gravity observations. This presentation will highlight the rational for these changes, the various elements that currently define NSRS and describe the activities NGS is making to improve the capacity of and access to NSRS in support of this transition.

Tech Session III: “Basics of Laser Scanning”
Josh Rayburn, LSIT, HDS S.E. Regional Manager, Leica, Atlanta, Georgia.

The basics of laser scanning class will enhance your knowledge and understanding of laser scanning. During the entirety of the class one will not only learn the differences in scanning technologies and the technical areas of hardware/software, but also how to market, understand return on investment, field to finish of a scan project, the proposal stage, how to sell the solution to your customers, plus many other added benefits. Throughout the presentation we will jump into live examples to help give added value to what is being discussed. Hope to see you there.

Tech Session IV: “What did you REALLY MEAN – The Intent of the Parties”
Kristopher Kline, PLS, 2Point Inc., Alexander N.C.

This general principle brings together Dedication/Acceptance of Easements, Intent regarding the words in a Deed, and Adverse Possession. Then will follow segments on “Color of Title” “Courtroom preparation – Tips and Tricks”.

JTCC, continued from page 3

CAD 201 Computer Aided Drafting and Design I – Course Content AutoCAD 2012
Wednesday 6:00 PM -9:45 PM Chester Campus

CAD 231 Computer Aided Drafting I – Course Content MicroStation
Friday 9:30 AM – 1:15 PM Chester Campus

John Tyler Community College offers career studies certificates in Geographic Information Systems and Surveying. For additional information on this program, please contact the Division of Engineering, Business and Public Services: 804-706-5121 (Chester) or 804-594-1480 (Midlothian). Visit www.jtcc.edu to apply to John Tyler, to register for classes, or to learn more about the College.
Awards Banquet and Casino Night

We cordially invite you to attend our Annual Banquet and Casino Night. Our banquet will be a little different for 2012 because we will be installing not only our new state officers but the chapter officers as well. We will also be awarding our plat contest winners as we are combining our Saturday luncheon with the banquet this year. Immediately following the banquet, we are going to have a Casino Night.

Casino Night

Come join us for three fun-filled hours of hanging out with old and new friends, while trying your luck at assorted casino games.

Everyone will be given $1000 in chips to start the night and from that generate your fortune. For those who don’t bet wisely and run out of chips, there will be a table manned by a VAS helper where you can purchase more chips on a cash basis.

At the end of the night everyone will use their winnings to bid on fabulous door prizes donated by our Vendors and by VAS. Curt and Sandra Sumner will serve as your hosts for the evening and Chip Richardson has volunteered to Emcee the auction at the end of the night.

A cash bar will be available along with an area to rest and socialize with friends.

The most important note to this night of fun is to honor the memory of a longtime friend of VAS, its members and vendors across the state. This Fall we lost Rich Williams in a tragic and sudden way. He was a friend to many with the surveying community. His laugh and smile was infectious to all. I am sure there will be toasts and stories throughout the night honoring Rich’s memory. One way we plan to honor Rich is to attend this function “SOCKLESS”, guys and gals. As friends of Rich will remember, the man didn’t like to wear socks ever!!! I am sure Rich is tooling around God’s country without socks on.

Come and join us for a night of games and fun and to honor a close friend who left us way too early!!!!

Please register early as there will be a cutoff in attendance so that we can be sure we have enough gaming tables and dealers on hand.
Calendar of Events for 2011 - 2012


Central Chapter — General Membership Meetings November 15 and December 9, 2011 (Christmas Party). Contact: Jamie Pruett, jpruett@baydesigngroup.com.


John Tyler Community College
Spring Semester Surveying and Related Courses